



The Wesleyan Star

West Grove
United Methodist Church
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 West Grove, Pa. 19390
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 Fax: 610-869-0110
 E:mail: office@westgroveumc.org
 Website: www.westgroveumc.org



September 2017



"Then Jesus will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'" Matthew 25: 40.

Helpless.... So often as we watch the news and hear the updates, we feel helpless. We feel as though there is nothing we can do.

In fact, comedians have even offered satire holding up the mirror to us as we feel overwhelmed and helpless about what is happening around us. (for an example, see Tina Fey on sheetcaking. Warning: some language)

Some of us have experienced this in response to the events of Charlottesville and explicit white supremacy.

Many of us have experienced it as we watched Hurricane Harvey make landfall in Southern Texas and Louisiana along the Gulf coast.

So many of our hearts have been broken as we have seen images of devastation and spoken to family members and friends in the path of destruction.

We add our prayers for safety and protection for all those who are still in need of rescue.

We add our prayers for those who are beginning to see subsiding flood waters and wonder what comes next.

We add our prayers for those who are beginning to do demolition in anticipation of necessary rebuilding, re-evaluating, and restoring.

In the midst of our prayers, many of us desire to add action. What can we do? We feel helpless. UMCOR, United Methodist Committee on Relief, gives these recommendations:

1. Please continue to pray for those whose lives have been impacted by hurricane/tropical storm Harvey. Please also pray for the Early Response Teams, disaster coordinators, and many volunteers in The Texas Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, Louisiana Conference of The United Methodist Church, Rio Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church and Central Texas Conference who are working tirelessly to provide relief after Harvey.

2. Support UMCOR with your financial gifts. When you give to UMCOR 100% of your gift goes to the designated disaster that you note.

A. You can give at this website:

https://secure3.convio.net/gbgm/site/SPageNavigator/umcor_donate.html?type=1002&project=901670&mc_cid=22f6b22c54&mc_eid=d11c442059

B. We will also have envelopes in the bulletin for this purpose.

3. We encourage you to support our UMCOR efforts by bringing in pieces for flood buckets. When an area experiences a flood, UMCOR supplies these buckets to those in need. Cleaning Kit Value: \$65.00 per kit Cleaning Kit Materials · 1 5-Gallon bucket with resealable lid or buckets from fast-food restaurants or bakeries can be used if washed and cleaned. Do not use buckets that have stored chemicals such as paint or pool cleaner. Advertisements on the outside are acceptable · Liquid laundry detergent-One 50-oz. or two 25-oz. bottle(s) only · Liquid household cleaner-12-16 oz. liquid cleaner that can be mixed with water-No spray cleaners · Dish soap-16-28 oz. bottle, any brand · 50 Clothespins · Clothesline of One 100-ft. or two 50-ft. lines. Cotton or plastic · 7 Sponges. No cellulose sponges due to mold issues. Remove from packaging · 24-Roll heavy-duty trash bags. 33-45 gallon sizes Remove from the box · 18 Cleaning wipes Handi-wipes or reusable wipes No terry cleaning towels Remove from packaging · 1 Can air freshener Aerosol or pump · 1 Insect-repellant spray 6-14 oz. aerosol or spray pump with protective cover · 2 Pairs kitchen dishwashing gloves Should be durable enough for multiple uses Remove from packaging · 1 Pair work gloves All Cotton All Leather Cotton with Leather Palm · 5 Scouring pads Remove from wrapper No stainless steel, Brillo pads or SOS pads (nothing with soap built in) · 1 Scrub brush Plastic or wood handle · 5 Dust masks Assembly Directions Place all liquid items in the bucket first. Place remaining items in the bucket fitting them around and between the liquid items. Sponges, scouring pads, clothespins and trash bags can be separated in order to fit all of the items in the bucket. Ensure the lid is closed securely. Important Notes · All items must be new except for the actual bucket and lid. · All cleaning agents must be liquid and in plastic containers. No powders, please. · If you cannot find the requested size of a liquid item, use a smaller size. Including larger sizes of any item will prevent the lid from sealing. · If all of the items on the list are not included, please put a label on the bucket indicating what has been omitted. Packing and Shipping Kits Instructions · Box weight: Each packed box cannot exceed 66 pounds. · Complete 2 packing lists: One for your records and one to put on the shipping box. · Paste the shipping label / packing list on the outside of each box you send. The shipping list helps the depot to quickly process kits. · Processing & Shipping Costs: Please enclose an envelope containing at least \$1.50 for each Cleaning Bucket you send. This donation enables Cleaning Buckets to be sent to areas in need.

4. Consider joining us on September 9th at Christiana HUB (in Delaware at Christiana UMC) at 9:00 am as we bring our supplies and pack buckets and kits to go to those affected by Hurricane Harvey and other disasters.

5. Donate only what is requested. UMCOR has been providing relief in five core areas: Hunger, Health, Refugees, Emergencies, and Relief Supplies since 1940. Their experience has proven successful in over 100 countries and thousands of disasters.

6. Wait for an invitation to volunteer. Some hearts might be moved to provide hands on support for those in need. UMCOR will be evaluating the needs and resources through Early Response teams. They will communicate the needs and there will be opportunities to serve.

Through the body of Christ, we need not feel helpless. We are given opportunities to serve together and coordinate our gifts. Please prayerfully consider how you might care for others.

Thank you for supporting our brothers and sisters in need.

In God's Love,

Pastor Monica



September Worship at West Grove UMC



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

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost Communion Sunday and Hurricane Harvey Relief Sunday Labor Day Sunday

September 3, 2017

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

Scripture: Genesis 20-21
Matthew 16: 24-28
Sermon: "God's Got Your Back"

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 10, 2017

Scripture: Genesis 22
Matthew 10: 40-42

Sermon: "You want What???"

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 17, 2017

Scripture: Genesis 24: 1-21
Sermon title: "Watch Closely"

Reverend Mercedes Case will be offering the message at both services.

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 24, 2017

Scripture: Genesis 25
John 17: 11-19

Sermon: "Sibling Rivalry: What Jacob and Esau will Teach Us"



Worship is on
Sunday
September 17, 2017
at 11 am in the
Allison Theater
led by Pastor Jim.

**The Church Office will
be closed on
Monday,
September 4th
in observance of
Labor Day.
We will reopen on
Tuesday September 5th
at 7: 30 a.m.**

Our summer of
blended services will
soon come to an end.
We return to two
services on Sunday,
September 3rd.

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



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

**First
Sunday**

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

September's Coffee Fellowship
is brought to you by :

Men's Sunday School Class

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.





Praiseworks Band

Rehearsals
begin
Thursday,
August 31 at
8:00 p.m.

Our Praiseworks Band
leads the 8:30 a.m.
contemporary worship
service each week.
We always welcome new
singers and
instrumentalists.

If you have a heart for worship
and are excited to serve God
through leading
the congregation
on Sunday
mornings,
please contact
Betsy Smith for
more information.



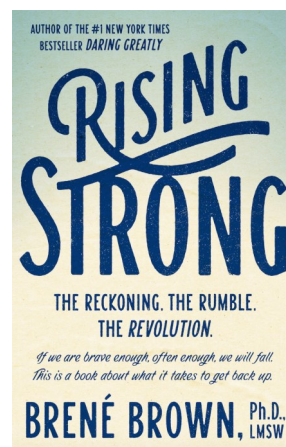
Rising Strong (Daring Greatly)

In September, we will start the next phase of the Daring Greatly series, Rising Strong, written by Brene' Brown, who has spent her professional life researching and understanding our need to gather and connect. Brene' says, "Owning our story and loving ourselves through that process is the bravest thing we'll ever do."

When we open ourselves to our story we need to identify our feelings and emotions, continue to persevere through the fear and hurt, and move towards a much deeper level of connectedness with God, our family and our community. We have been witnessing this need, this change, this thirst through individual testimonies, prayer requests, and the subtle movement of openness. Our families, our community, our country, our world and most importantly we as individuals need this now.

Brene' states that, "Vulnerability is not winning or losing; it's having the courage to show up and be seen when we have no control over the outcome.

Vulnerability is not weakness; it's our greatest measure of courage." Consider joining us in September as we continue to explore this all-encompassing path of Daring Greatly and Rising Strong. If you are interested please reach out to Peter Mullen, Darlene Murphy, or Mel Leaman. We welcome all to join us whether a returning member or just starting.



Faith Learning Academy

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, September 10th!

Plan on joining us on September 10th as we

kick off our Sunday
School experiences for
adults and children.



Sunday School
for all ages



More details on offerings for adults to follow.

Can't wait to see you then!



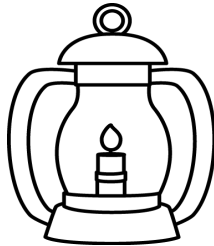
Bible Sunday for 3rd Graders September 10th

On **Sunday, September 10th**, we will present each of our third graders with Bibles.

To ensure we do not miss anyone, please call Donna in the church office, 610-869-9334, or email her at office@westgroveumc.org with the full name and spelling of your child's name, so a Bible can be presented to your child.

Bible Class for Third Graders

Third graders will be receiving their Bibles on September 10th. Be on the lookout for a special opportunity for third graders to learn more about using their Bibles. The word of God is a lamp unto our feet; we want to teach our children how to use their lamps!



Memory Bells



The Memory Bells will resume practicing on September 11, the Monday after Labor Day, and we're looking forward to another great year of music. We rehearse every Monday night from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. Admittedly, it is big commitment. It is very hard to rehearse if even one ringer is missing, and ringers are responsible for finding a sub for their position if they cannot attend, but sub lists are provided. I've been looking at a lot of music and we hope to be playing a mixture of well-known, favorite hymns, classical music, and some current popular music in our repertoire.

One of our ringers has had to resign because of family obligations. We are looking for a new ringer for our C4-D4 position (two of our larger bells) and if you feel led in that direction, please email Sandy Deckard at davsan5@comcast.net, phone her at **484-887-0003** (home) or **610-563-9500** (cell). We enjoy our time together and hope that you'll consider either joining the choir as a ringer or volunteering to be a substitute.

Join the Chancel Choir!

1st rehearsal, Thursday, August 31 at 6:45 p.m.

Our Chancel Choir is excited to begin a new season and wants to invite you to join us! Our first rehearsal is on Thursday, August 31 at 6:45 p.m. in Room 6. We will sing at the 11:00 service on September 3.

Below are listed a few of the reasons why it is so great to be a member of the choir!

Advantages of joining the choir:

1. You never have to worry about what to wear.
2. You have excellent seats and are assured a reserved seat for Christmas and Easter.
3. From your advantageous seat, you can smile at, gawk at, ignore and otherwise enjoy the rest of the people in the congregation.
4. The pastor is nearly always looking the other way.
5. You're in a wonderful spot to see new members.
6. The cost for all these benefits? Just one evening a week (Thursdays at 6:45 p.m.).
7. Oh, yes, one more reason to join the choir: You're a leader in the worship experience.

If you have any questions, please contact Betsy Smith, the Choir Director, or any of the choir members would be happy to help you!





Back-To-School Sunday, **September 10th!**

We will kick off the return to
Sunday School on September 10th.

The children will meet their teachers and break off into their classrooms, while the adults will have an opportunity to view the different studies available to them and ask questions of the leaders.

In addition, refreshments will be available for everyone! So, come check out what is new in Sunday School!

Commissioning of our Sunday School Teachers and Sunday Morning Servants will be on September 10th.

Please be sure to mark your calendar.

We are so blessed by the men and women who teach. Let us offer them our blessings and receive their promises as they prepare to shape hearts and minds for the next year.

We are still in great need of more **Sunday school teachers and Children's Worship leaders.** CW leaders only need to show up and teach the lesson that is already provided.

Anyone can volunteer for as few as one Sunday a year, up to every Sunday of the year. We would love to have people who are just willing to be an extra pair of hands with no leadership requirement.



Blessing of
the Animals

**West Grove United
Methodist Church**
Blessing of the Animals
Sunday, October 1, 2017
1:00 p.m.
**At the Gazebo in Harmony
Park**
**(Harmony Road & N. Guernsey
Road)**

The animals in our lives, from the smallest fish to the largest horse, bring us great joy, comfort, laughter and purpose. They are a part of our families and our hearts and deserve God's special blessings. Bring your pets, large and small for a time of prayer and blessing just for them.

Dogs must be on leashes; smaller animals need to be in crates or cages. Horses, sheep, and goats are welcome as well, under the attentive eyes of their owners. Invite your fellow animal lovers to receive pet treats and God's blessings for their man's (and woman's!) best friends!



GIRL SCOUTS

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the girls of the Avon Grove School District, aka the Machaloha Service Unit.

Blessings to you all,

Bonnie Wolff

Machaloha Service Unit Manager

The Girl Scouts of the Machaloha Service Unit want to thank West Grove UMC for the blessing of your hospitality for our troops. We have had dozens of meetings & events for troops and leaders over the past several years and we cannot thank you enough. So when Vern called to ask if the girls would be interested in planting flowers this year, we jumped at the chance. We had 3 troops come to plant flowers & spread mulch in over 2 days in April. We've also had 8 troops volunteer to weed on a semi-monthly basis over the summer.



And:

This is Hazel. She's our garden hedgehog that hides in the garden beds for the girls to find. Should you see Hazel, don't be alarmed, she's harmless!



West Grove United Methodist Church
2nd Annual Open Market
Saturday, September 23, 2017

9:00-2:00pm

Vendors Jewelers
Artists Consignment
Antiques Food Trucks

300 N. Guernsey Rd
West Grove, PA
19390



For additional information or vendor inquiries
 Please call (610) 869-9334 or
 Email office @westgroveumc.org

OPEN MARKET UPDATES

The Open Market will take place on September 23rd. We are still reaching out to vendors so if you know anyone that might want to participate, please have them contact the church or Darlene Murphy, d123murphy@aol.com.

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. Take the time to reach out, give them a postcard, and help us uncover our own community talent.

In addition to having vendors we have FOOD: BBQ, Pizza, Tacos, Chicken Sliders and Fries, Ice Cream, Popcorn, etc.

The Market is only successful if we have the support of the congregation, community and that means shoppers! We need to have everyone come out and support this event. It 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!!!!



Spaghetti Dinner To Benefit

Boy Scout Troop 12

**West Grove United Methodist Church
300 N Guernsey Road
West Grove, PA 19390**

**Saturday September 30, 2017
5:00 to 7:00 p.m.**

**Spaghetti Dinner complete with
pasta, meatballs, sauce, salad, bread, desserts and refreshments.**

\$10.00 - Adult

\$6.00 - Child 10 and under

Tickets must be purchased in advance.

**Call 610-932-4984
or purchase tickets online at
www.ccctroop12.org**

**You can also purchase tickets by emailing
Lyaletchko@zoominternet.net
Or mail your check to:
Troop 12
117 W Ruddy Duck Circle
Oxford, PA 19363**



All tickets purchased by mail can be picked up in our "will call" area the day of the event.

OneRunTogether's Hard to the Core 5K

Orchard Mud Run and 1 Mile Fun Walk will be held at 8:30am on Saturday, September 9th at Weavers Orchard, 40 Fruit Lane in Morgantown. Run through apple and peach trees, a vineyard, a Christmas tree farm, mud holes, hay bale obstacles, a waterslide and more. The course ends at the pond with a live rock band and an apple-pancake breakfast. Families welcome!

The mission of OneRunTogether is to host challenging and exciting races that financially and spiritually benefit local cancer patients in need. In order to lighten their emotional and financial burdens, the group donates 100% of its profits to the cause. For registration information, please refer to the website at www.oneruntogether.org or call 610-733-2181.

6TH ANNUAL

HARD TO THE CORE 5K

APPLE ORCHARD 5K MUD RUN
at
WEAVERS ORCHARD

40 Fruit Lane, Morgantown PA 19543

**SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 9TH, 2017**

Race starts at 8:30AM
1-Mile Walk starts at 8:40AM
Race day registration/check-in 7:00AM - 8:20AM

RUN or WALK
through
APPLE & PEACH TREES, A VINEYARD,
MUDHOLES, APPLE PITS, HAY BALES
AND CHRISTMAS TREES
AT
PLOW FARMS

**Ends at pond with LIVE ROCK BAND
AND Awards Ceremony!**
Apple-Pancake Breakfast available with sausage,
fresh fruit, coffee, OJ & Apple Cider!

**REGISTER BY VISITING:
WWW.ONERUNTOGETHER.ORG**

**All Proceeds Benefit
Local Cancer Patients**



To Our Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Hopewell United Methodist Church in Downingtown, Pa. is pleased to host the Live On Forever Concert, presented by Prison Fellowship International, featuring *The Afters*, *Jason Gray*, and *David Dunn* in our outdoor amphitheater on Friday, September 15th @ 7:00 PM.

Come experience peace, hope, healing, and joy that comes from the music and lyrics that God has placed on the hearts of each of these Christian artists. They will share their amazing music, song, and testimony.

This is a ticketed event, however, you will experience three amazing artists, in a beautiful outdoor, up close and personal amphitheater setting, and all ticket sale

proceeds go to local, national and international missions. We invite you, your families, friends, and neighbors to join us.

Please fill the cars, fill the church van and bus, and don't miss this exciting, entertaining, and educational event.

Come join us! Here's what you need to know:

Date: Friday, September 15th @ 7:00 PM (Doors Open @ 6:00 PM, VIP Doors Open @ 5:15)

Location: Hopewell UMC Amphitheater, 852 Hopewell Road, Downingtown, PA 19335

Admission: \$16/General Admission; \$25/VIP (includes Q&A with Artist, Premium Seat Choice).

Group discounts available. Recommended for ALL ages!

For Tickets: https://www.showclix.com/event/liveonforever_091517

For Additional Information: <http://www.hopewellumc.org/LiveOnForeverConcert>

We hope to see you there!

PRAYER BEAD GARDEN GROUNDBREAKING AND CONSECRATION

There could not have been a more beautiful day on Sunday August 20th as we gathered for worship. The sun was shining and the humidity was low. The breeze was light and the presence of God was surely in this place. We gathered for worship in the sanctuary. We poured out the vinegar and concerns of our heart in prayer. Pastor Shirley shared the insightful parable of pouring out the acidic concerns of our heart like vinegar, so



that we can enjoy the luscious oil of God's faithfulness. With the events of Charlottesville fresh in our minds, Pastor Monica reminded us how important it is that West Grove UMC be both a place of prayer and faith that calls us to action. The congregation responded to the call to action to process outside from the sanctuary to the site for the Prayer Bead Garden. The congregation sang, "I come



to the garden" accompanied by the piano music in the sanctuary and the guitar outside. Pastor Shirley reflected: "Today our lives need a sacred place and space to claim. A place to go to and just settle into the Presence of Christ. Here the garden promises that place where one can take a breathe and reminds us to focus on what is most important."



We invited members of the Prayer Bead Garden Team to break ground. We thank Susan Paisley, Ralph Curtiss, Fred Sullivan, Carol Whelan, Pastor Shirley, and Pastor Monica for their continued work and dedication to this vision coming to fruition. Next, we had generations of families digging together as we commit to this prayer bead garden being a place for all generations and our community to experience God. Then, members of the congregation and com-



munity dug in. Pastor Shirley and Pastor Monica poured oil in the broken ground as they asked God's abiding presence to be known.

This consecration is an important milestone in a process that began in February with a vision. Susan Paisley received this vision in worship. A team formed from trustees,



administrative council, and the prayer ministry shepherded this vision. Susan shares, "As the prayer bead garden vision becomes reality-we look to provide a place set apart to contemplate, meditate and meet God. A space for all generations within our church and community as a visual and living reminder that we are His and that He calls to each and every one of us in the stillness of a garden." The conclusion of the service offered blessings for all who would know God's way and call in this garden.



Work on the garden is slated to begin this fall. Phase one of the walk and prayer bead stones will occur this fall. Phase two with plantings is slated for the spring. Phase three involving the water feature will follow.

We give thanks to God for all who have contributed with their funds, prayers, and support for the prayer bead garden and look forward to where God is moving among us.

Pastor Monica encourages us, "Prayer is the place we know and learn who God really is. My prayer for our church and our community is that here, in the prayer bead garden, people may meet and learn God more deeply. May lives be transformed. May our church and community be renewed in the knowledge of God."

Prayer Walk

On Tuesday, August 22nd, a group of pray-ers from our community prayed through the Avon Grove Schools, including the Charter School ABVM, and the Nazarene Academy.

After gathering for instructions and prayer, we each departed for the schools we were praying for. Pray-ers told stories of connecting with school staff and moments of incredible blessing as we serve our community.

Thank you for praying!



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.



I try to send reminders, but I may miss you, especially if you're new to the church or program. If you have clearances from another group, we only need a copy for our files. Just put the copy in my mailbox and I'll get them filed for you and update you on the list.

If you need new clearances, both can now be done on line. For a Criminal Background Check the website is epatch.state.pa.us. The form is SP4-164.

For the Child Abuse Clearance the website is compass.state.pa.us/CWIS. The form is CY113. You will be asked to create a Keystone ID for this one. If you have any questions, see me (Fran Miller), or email me at jmille8698@verizon.net or call [610-869-8935](tel:610-869-8935).

We have a small group that also helps keep us in compliance with Safe Sanctuaries policy. They are the "Roamers" who are available during the Sunday School hour. We walk the hall while our Sunday School teachers are working with the children. The



policy requires two adults working with children, but with the Roamer, we have that second adult roaming and available. No teaching or preparation is needed, you are just on hand. We would love to have a couple more Roamers on our list.

You would only Roam once every six weeks or so. Let me know if you'd be able to help out.

Clearances are a requirement.



Hello Missions
Team!

The summer is flying by and we have had Urban Promise meals, VBS and Family Promise as our missions activities. In addition, we collected \$255 in support of the Les Family at last Sunday's Fifth Sunday Coin Collection.

I had a follow-up item from our last meeting to check on dates for dinner preparation at the Ronald McDonald house. December 31 is the only Sunday date open in 2017. The 2018 calendar has not been opened up yet. Please advise if you have interest in this date; otherwise, we can decide at our next meeting if the 2018 calendar has been released.



The Mission Central HUB in Christiana is having a workday on Saturday, September 9th at 10am. They will be working on school kits and cleaning buckets.

If anyone has updates on developments for a Good Neighbor lead, additional team members, gleaning dates or food bank opportunities, please reply to all.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, September 26th at 6:00 pm.

Blessings,
Janice



Saturday September 30

Hopewell
United Methodist Church
Downingtown, PA



Seek the peace and prosperity of the city...
Pray to the LORD for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.
Jeremiah 29:7 (NIV)

Transformative leadership training for lay and clergy
designed to empower local congregations

Keynote Address

Imagining the Possibilities



Rev. Scott Chrostek

Pastor of Resurrection Downtown, Kansas City

When we are called to get up, get out, get moving, and give it all away... with joy and thanksgiving, simply by doing the same things that Jesus did first for us, imagine the possibilities! Scott will share the vision, the questions, the ups -and-downs, and the miracles that he and a new Christian community experienced along the way in planting RezDowntown, where they worship 1,000 people every weekend in the city! Under Scott's leadership, this new Christian community has built the first new church building in downtown KC in over 80 years. The author of three books, Scott is part of Adam Hamilton's Executive Leadership team at Church of the Resurrection, and is widely viewed as one of the brightest young leaders among United Methodist clergy nationwide.

Schedule of Events

Saturday, September 30, 2017

11:30am Pre-Conference Workshops
2:00pm Welcome & Keynote Address
3:15pm Workshops and Leadership Training
4:45pm Refreshments and Fellowship
5:25pm Closing Worship

Worship Speaker

Rev. Dr. W. Wilson Goode, Sr.

Director, Amachi, and
former Mayor of Philadelphia



Special Music by
The Philadelphia United
Methodist Mass Choir

Pre-Conference Workshops

The Way of the Labyrinth

**Children's Ministries:
Building a Firm Foundation**

Afternoon Workshops

**God's Misfit Mission:
Meeting People Where They Are**

**Singing Strong:
Getting the Most from the Voices
in Our Choirs**

**It is Well:
What's Happening in Downingtown?**
Rich Church, Poor Church

**For more information, and to
REGISTER...**

www.hopewellumc.org/planting-seeds



Hopewell United Methodist Church
852 Hopewell Road . Downingtown, PA 19335
610.269.1545
www.hopewellumc.org
Email Inquiries: boyd@hopewellumc.org

If you are interested in registering, please contact the church office.

Hey, Hey, Heeeyyyy! FOOTBALL SEASON IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER.



Last year was the 8th season of the West Grove UMC Fantasy



Football League. We are now preparing for the 9th season. No experience is necessary but some knowledge of the NFL teams/players is helpful. No fee to play; the winner's name will be engraved onto the very honorable West Grove UMC Fantasy Football trophy. Congrats to **Rob Catoia**, last year's Champion.

Perhaps you have a friend or neighbor that may benefit from a church community, but you haven't been sure how to invite them; this could be it! Space is limited; teams will be assigned on a first come first serve basis. To join the league please contact:

**Commissioner Tim Bushnell right away at
610-998-0916 or agedarborist@gmail.com.**

C.M.O. Consignment Sale

SAVE THE DATES!



The Children's Morning Out program will be holding the Fall/Winter Children's Clothing, Toy and Equipment Consignment Sale on

**Friday, October 13th and Saturday,
October 14th.**

Find the outgrown children's clothes, toys and baby equipment that you aren't using anymore!

This is a great way to make some extra money and support the CMO program. More details to come!

We also gladly accept any donated children's items if you do not want to consign them yourself.

The proceeds from the sale of these items go directly to the CMO Scholarship Fund.

Please contact the church office at 610-869-9334 with any questions.

West Grove United Methodist Church Semi~Annual Rummage Sale



Friday, October 6th, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Saturday, October 7th, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Please think of us as you sort through your closets and drawers, attics and garages.

**Donations accepted at the church from
Sunday, Oct. 1st—Wed., Oct. 4th.**

Left-over items are donated to various mission organizations. The United Methodist Women who sponsor this sale, use the proceeds to fund various missions in the church and the wider community.

DREAM BIG

Our opportunity list gives you a chance to give beyond your regular tithe. Consider how you might impact our congregation and community.

Item	Quantity	Approximate Cost
Monitors- Sanctuary (80")	2	\$ 4,000
Monitors- Narthex (42" - 46")	3	\$ 4,000
Electronic Sign at the street	2	\$ 15,000
Electronic Sign at Rt. 1	1	\$ 50,000
Fireproof filing cabinet	2	\$ 2,500
2 inch slat blinds for classrooms	25	\$ 500
Multifunction printer	1	\$ 150



Books Mentioned In Sermons

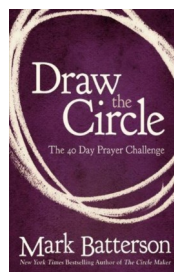
Mother Teresa: Come Be My Light: The Private Writings of the Saint of Calcutta, edited by Brian Kolodiejchek, 2007

An Altar in the World: A Geography of Faith, Barbara Brown Taylor, 2010

Do you have a heart to pray for others? Are you drawn by His gentle kindness to go on your knees in prayer? Join the prayer chain and lift up in prayers the concerns of your brothers and sisters at WGUMC and the community. Contact Pastor Shirley.



"Again I say to you, that if two of you agree on earth about anything that they may ask, it shall be done for them by My Father who is in heaven. For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst." Matthew 18:19-20.



"The size of your prayers depends on the size of your God. If your god is small, you'll pray man-sized prayers. But if your God knows no limits, then neither will your prayers.

The God we pray to exists outside of the four space-time dimensions He created, and maybe we should pray that way!" Author, Mark Batterson, "Draw the Circle, The 40 Day Prayer Challenge".



SCRIP Scripts

We are slowly getting more individuals and families to participate. Even one card can net additional income for the church as we count our pennies.

This month's tip(s):

September: Back to school mode. Pick up gift cards for clothes, supplies, and all your back to school needs. Besides Walmart, Staples and Target remember there are gift cards for Lands End, Dick's sporting goods, American Eagle, and Barnes & Noble.

Additionally, as we prepare to make the last month of summer the best it can be, stay within your budget for travel with gas cards, restaurants, movies, etc.



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!





Happy, Healthy Eating for Kids

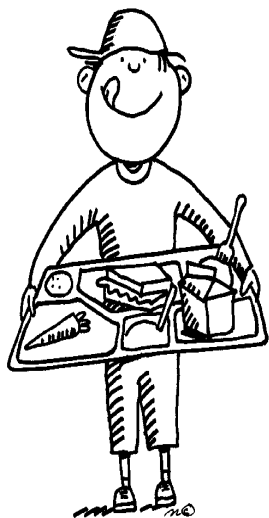


Eating is an important part of our lives. The healthy foods we eat help our body to grow, run, walk, think, move, sleep, and fight off germs. But did you know that some foods can actually hurt our bodies? Here are some tips on how to make sure you are getting enough of the foods your body needs to do its job well:

-Eat the rainbow: A fun and tasty way to make sure you are eating enough fruits and vegetables is to eat as many different colors as you can at each meal. For example, some carrots, blueberries, and red bell peppers are all different colors and are all good for your body. Help your parents the next time you go grocery shopping to pick out the most colorful fruits and vegetables. How many can you find?



-In the cafeteria: There are many options to choose from in the lunch line at school, some of them are healthier than others. Try to choose fruits and vegetables instead of French fries or chips and ask for grilled meat instead of fried. When it comes to something to drink grab some water or fat-free milk instead of soda or juice. It may be hard to make these changes, especially if your friends aren't, but you will be keeping your body healthy and will feel much better!



-Snack Attack: After a long day at school or an afternoon of playing your tummy may be telling you it's time to eat. But before you reach for that bag of chips, consider choosing one of these healthier options instead:

- Instead of soda or juice, grab some water or fat-free milk
- Instead of chips or crackers, grab a piece of fruit or veggie sticks
- Instead of cookies or cake, grab a sugar free ice pop or unsweetened, fat-free yogurt

By making healthy food choices you will feel better and play better.

So start making healthy choices today!





Thank you to all who have spent time on Sunday mornings volunteering in the nursery!

We continue to be blessed with wonderful little ones to spend time with on Sundays and watch them grow!

We are in need of additional volunteers, especially during the 11am service.

If you are interested in helping in the nursery (about once a month), please contact Amy Castaldi



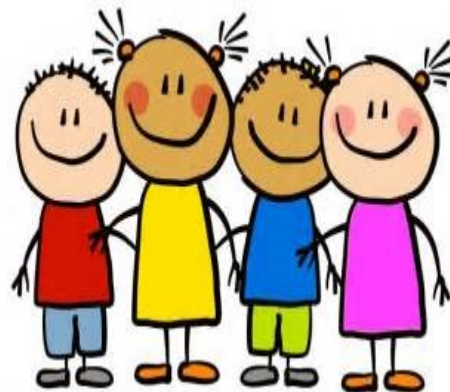
Our visitation ministry is busy connecting with people who become unable to fully engage in the life of our church.



The visiting team reaches out bringing comfort, joy, and His Word through visits, phone calls, and cards. Some of the volunteers bring communion on their visit. If you would like to serve on the visiting team, or you want to be visited, or know someone who would like a visit, contact Pastor Shirley.

CMO PRESCHOOL

September means back to school for our preschool children. We are excited to welcome all of the children and families back for another year of learning and growing; socially, emotionally, cognitively, and spiritually. The school year often begins with tears but the tears quickly change to smiles as the children get settled in to their new classrooms. I am so thankful to be able to provide a safe, learning environment for so many children in our community.



Along with preparing for the start of the preschool year, we are also preparing for our Fall/Winter Children's Consignment sale. This year the Consignment sale will be held on October 13th and 14th. The consignment sales are fundraisers for the preschool program and help us purchase supplies, provide scholarships, and give back the church. I am always looking for volunteers to help on both Friday and Saturday. Please check out the volunteer sign up sheets that will be posted soon. Consignment materials will also be available soon. Thank you!

Tracy McLaughlin-CMO Director

Retired Active People



Retired Active People (R.A.P.)

RAP's first meeting of the new season will be held Friday, September 8 at 12:00 noon. Remember to bring your lunch and a friend or two. Desserts and drinks are provided. In addition, each month this year our gathering will be coordinated/hosted by one or two of our members. Kathryn Steele is our September coordinator and she is very pleased to introduce our program "Humor in Politics" presented by Ray McKay. Kathryn says that the program is not political in nature, but will be full of whimsical quotes by several familiar individuals.

Please join us for a fun afternoon of food and fellowship.

There is a need to have a coordinator/host for a few more months this year. If you are interested, please let Sara Ann Ramberger at 610-869-3863 or sar57@verizon.net know of your interest. We look forward to many interesting, informative and fun meetings as we enter this our "20th Anniversary" year.

The following is a brief outline of next year's programs:

September 9-Humor in Politics by Ray McKay

October 20-(Third Friday) Belles and Roses Joyful Ringers, Lavenia Civitella, Director

November 10-SECCRA Tour at Landfill (weather permitting) or a PowerPoint Presentation at WGUMC

December 8-John Clayton and the Revelators preceded by a Covered Dish Luncheon

January 12-Food Safety Presentation by Hunter Hale, CCHD

February 9-Canine Partners for Life

March 9-Time Runs Through It-Eclectic Songs of Love and Life by Mel Leaman

April 13-The Medical Aspects of the Crucifixion by Dr. Bob Hayes

May 11-Danny Paisley and his Family preceded by a Covered Dish Luncheon

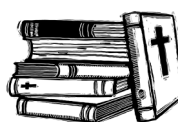
Plan to join us for one or all of these special programs and a great afternoon of good food and fellowship. Hope to see you in September!

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

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

Saturday, September 9, 2017

Juliets meet for breakfast and fun... second Saturdays at 9:00! Join us! We meet at **Sunrise Café, 127 E. State Street, Kennett Square, PA 19348** They have free parking in the parking garage on Saturdays. Questions? Contact Chris Curtiss (610-345-0374)



**Luther House
Bible Study**

Hear the Stories!

Everyone is welcome to attend! We meet on Wednesdays from 2:00 - 3:00 pm at Luther Building #1. Come join us, once a month or every week!

Come as you are able. We have been reading through Romans and enjoy sharing how God's Word works in our lives. If you are interested, have questions or would like to know more, please contact Cindy Haley at **484-702-7071** or chaley@zoominternet.net.

The new project for Fall 2017 will be making BOOK BAGS for MISSION CENTRAL!

Check it out!

<http://missioncentral.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/School-Kit-and-School-Bag-Instructions.pdf>

Our quilting challenge is to make quilts for Family Promise use while families are residing in our church.

We welcome anyone who would like to participate - no sewing skills are necessary!

Our meetings are usually the first and third Friday - with occasional changes to our schedule.

JOIN US whenever you can. For more information check with Chris Curtiss or Karen Boyd



R.O.M.E.O.

**Retired Older Men Eating
Out**



R.O.M.E.O.

September 28, 2017

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.

C.I.A. Youth Ministry News

On Sunday, August 27th, 2017, we announced the appointment of Reverend Kevin Babcock as half time youth pastor, effective September 1st, 2017.

Pastor Kevin Babcock has been married for fifteen years. Regina, his wife, is a writer and editor with an interest in nonprofit fundraising and development. Regina also works for the United Methodist Church and is an Administrative Support Specialist at the Conference Office. She enjoys knitting, loves reading, is an artist, and is an aficionado of classic movies. Regina is also active in the community. She serves as a Commissioner on the Borough of Lansdowne's the Human Relations Commission and the Coordinator of the Delaware Valley Chapter of Binky Patrol which makes security blankets for chronically ill, at-risk and vulnerable children.

Their two boys, Quincy and James, are going into



seventh and sixth grades and are interested in video games, sports, movies, and visiting with their grandparents as often as possible.

Pastor Kevin has been in ministry for twenty years. Since 2012 he has been the pastor of Clifton Heights UMC. Previously, Pastor Kevin served as a Hospital and Hospice Chaplain for fifteen years and as the Youth Pastor at Lima UMC for three years.

After graduating from Drew Theological School in 2000, having earned his Master of Divinity with highest

honors, he completed his clinical pastoral training at Cooper Hospital in Camden, New Jersey, focusing on trauma and pediatric spiritual care. His clinical training also included a semester at the Bethesda Home for Boys, in Savannah, Georgia working with at-risk youth and juvenile offenders.

Pastor Kevin was also trained by the Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church in church planting, development, and revitalization. He continued his training by completing the Nonprofit Management Certificate Course at The University of Delaware. He also completed the Basic Police Chaplain Course through The Police Chaplain Program.

Pastor Kevin likes getting involved in the communities he serves. He is active member of the Home and School Association at the local public school which Clifton Heights UMC has adopted. He was the DJ for their 5th Grade Dance, was a sponsor of lunch with Santa, and offered spiritual support to the entire staff. For the last few years he has proudly helped coach the worst two teams in the Delco Boys Baseball League and is already looking forward to next year. He also serves as the Treasurer for the Lansdowne Public Library as a member of their Board of Trustees.

Pastor Kevin's ministerial style is relaxed and casual. He leads with a sense of mission and a good sense of humor. He believes people sometimes take the church more seriously than their faith. He holds that church is indeed serious, but doesn't need to be taken too seriously: Just seriously enough to follow Jesus and serve our community. Pastor Kevin contends that youth ministry strikes a balance between working and playing, but that prayer, service, and relationships are what really lead youth to make a commitment to Jesus Christ. He is looking forward to starting with us September 1st and spending a month getting to know us. He is even more excited about kicking off our youth programming on Sunday, October 1st!

Join us on September 3rd after 11:00 worship to meet Pastor Kevin and his family at Fellowship.

Peace in our Mission ConneXion

Mission Connexion is are 11 local UMC churches working together.

Courtesy of The Reverend Lydia Muñoz, pastor of United Methodist Church of the Open Door, (courtesy of Narberth UMC), we have a stained glass window depicting a dove of peace that we want to send on a tour of our churches this fall.

As the window comes to each church for a week, that church will focus on a justice issue in worship that Sunday.

Join us on September 24th in worship as we focus on the issue of addiction in our community.



Let us work together with our brothers and sisters to serve God and God's people.



We are going to see about offering the basic course for Christ Servant Ministers at one of our local United Methodist churches. We will need a minimum of 12 students. It will probably be on a Saturday for 3-4 hours.

A Christ Servant Minister is...

An active, supportive member of a United Methodist congregation;

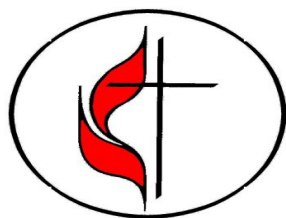
Eager to serve through the church

Well-informed on Scripture, and on the doctrine, heritage, and the life of the United Methodist Church

Committed to witnessing through church and community leadership, caregiving ministries, and spoken communication

Willing to improve his or her skills by training for service

Talk to Pastor Monica if you would like to know more.

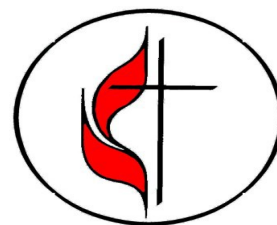


SAVE THE DATE

CHARGE CONFERENCE

Saturday, October 7, 2017

9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Oxford United Methodist Church



Join our congregation and other local United Methodist Churches as we look towards the future of our churches. Our District Superintendent will bring words of inspiration and lead us.



West Grove United Methodist Church was issued a donation of \$22.80 from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of AmazonSmile program activity between April 1 and June 30, 2017. So friends, keep using Amazon Smile when you shop doesn't cost you anything and earns the church a donation!

From Vision to Action

We give thanks to God for the faithful folks who have been praying and discerning our vision and ministry strategies into the future. At this point, Administrative Council has endorsed this vision across multiple years. We have been sharing these goals for each portion of our Mission statement as well as the specific strategies in the last three newsletters. Please refer back to the June newsletter for OPEN goals and strategies, July newsletter for GROW goals and strategies, and August for SERVE goals and strategies. You can always refer to the website for previous newsletters. Pray about where God is leading us. Pray about where God is calling you to take a step of faith as our church takes a leap of faith! Thanks be to God for Vision and Action!

Prayers for our Church

Join us as we pray specifically:

God will give us specific hearts for our community.

God will open us to move beyond comfortable to growing in our faith.

God will rise up leaders and servants to serve those in need and lead.



At West Grove, we love God by opening our hearts to Jesus, growing our faith, and serving our community and world in His name.

Open~ Grow ~ Serve

How are you meeting our congregation's three resolutions for 2017?

- Read Bible in a year
- Attend one spiritual growth opportunity
- Invite one person to church

One of our goals under Growing our faith was

- Youth Ministry: strengthen current ministry with new opportunities for incoming students.

We celebrate the appointment for **Rev. Kevin Babcock** as half-time youth pastor effective September 1st.

Conversations and discussions with our youth, parents, and youth leaders shaped the discernment of the Staff Parish Relations Committee as to the specific gifts we were looking for in strengthening our current youth ministry. We look forward to new opportunities for incoming students. Join us in prayer as we look forward to the future with our youth ministry.

Look forward next month to more ways that we are living into our vision shared in this space.

"Where there is no vision, the people perish, but happy are those who follow God's way."
Proverbs 29:18



Dear Pastor Monica,

Thank you for partnering with CCWS through our 2017 Baby Bottle Campaign. I wanted to let you know that **West Grove United Methodist Church** collected a total of **\$524.33... thank you so much!** Your support enables Chester County Women's Services to provide free pregnancy testing and limited ultrasound, prenatal vitamins and nurse consultations, education, and peer counseling to women facing unplanned pregnancies.

Again, thank you so much for your support and God bless!

Sincerely,
 Mary Pepe
 Marketing and Events Associate
 Chester County Women's Services
 P.O. Box 1224, 1028 E. Lincoln Hwy, Coatesville, PA 19320
 27 S. Church Street, West Chester, PA 19382
 645 E. Baltimore Pike, Kennett Square, PA 19348
610.383.0930 Office 610.470.7765 Cell www.ccwsmedicalinfo.org



Sign up today for our 5K Run/Walk for Life!

www.runsignup.com/CCWS

Our Emergency Food Bank Depends on You!

We are blessed to be able support others in difficult times with our emergency food pantry. It is your generous donations that allow us to do that.

Providing a family with food also allows a family the flexibility to put those funds towards paying rent or utility: to eat and keep on the lights.

Don't forget the food pantry as we head towards fall



The most needed items currently are:

Canned items-Tuna fish, chicken, SPAM, Roast beef, Beef Stew, fruit

Coffee and Tea bags

Juice boxes and juice mixes

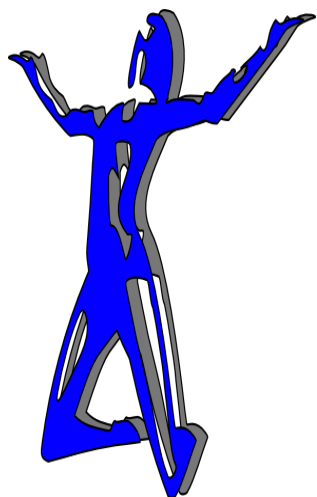
Condiments

Laundry soap, bath soap, hand soap, dish soap

Toilet paper and paper towels

Cleaning products

Who are the ones that pray with you in the Prayer Room?



The people who want to pray with you, and for you, are the people gifted with intercessory prayer, praying for others. They are members of the Prayer Ministry. They gather to plan ways to equip and support others in knowing the power of prayer. Some of the ways have been offering classes, prayer beads, movies, and awareness of the prayer room.

All,

It is with a heavy heart that I write this email, but after a very hectic summer and new paths to be taken I find that I cannot commit to continue yoga on any regular basis. The job (s) upheaval this summer has led to a positive outcome as I have signed last night with a company out of Boston; the down side is that I will have more travel but do not need to relocate.



Over the years we have formed some wonderful bonds, shared great experiences all while learning to pause, touch our toes, and be ever thankful for our bodies the Lord has provided. We have learned to be thankful for even the small aches, pains, rest, relaxation, and restoration found both on and off the mat. I hope everyone can carry those pearls with them and can continue to seek out the time each day to quiet the mind, breathe, and just listen.

Everyone has been a joy to see each week and I will truly miss our Tuesday nights. For me, I just ordered my travel mat as it looks like I will have lots of time to use on the road. Please keep in touch and blessings to each of you,

Darlene Murphy

A Medicare Alert

As of April 2018, Medicare is going to be sending out new cards, with new numbers. The cards will no longer have your SS # on them. This is because of identity theft.



They will send out a paper to explain the procedure for disposing of your old card. This should all be done by the end of 2019. This will not have anything to do with your SS #, that will stay the same. Call Medicare if you need to know more. Their phone number is on the card.

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.





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

SEPTEMBER



2017

~ Open, Grow, Serve ~

At West Grove UMC, we love God by opening our hearts to Jesus, growing our faith and serving our community and world in His name.

The Reverend Monica B. Guepet, Lead Pastor

pastor@westgroveumc.org

Office Hours: Monday—Friday

7:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Staff

The Reverend Shirley Daddario—Associate Pastor for
Caring Ministries

Shirley.daddario@westgroveumc.org

The Reverend Jim Mundell - Associate Pastor,
Chaplain at Jenner's Pond

Jim.mundell@westgroveumc.org

The Reverend Kevin Babcock-Youth Pastor

Donna Fackler - Church Administrator

Donna.fackler@westgroveumc.org

Kristin Boyd - Administrative Assistant

Kristin.boyd@westgroveumc.org

Betsy Smith - Traditional Music Director

Contemporary Music Interim Director

Keyboardist

Betsy.smith@westgroveumc.org

Sandy Deckard—Handbell Choir Director

davsan5@comcast.net

Tracy McLaughlin—Children's Morning Out Director

Tracy.mclaughlin@westgroveumc.org

Maira Tena - Nursery Attendant

Board and Committee Leadership

Carol Whelan - Administrative Council Chair

Gene Aucott - Trustee Chair

Barbara Delaney - Finance Chair

Scott Steele - Treasurer

Sara Ann Ramberger - Financial Secretary

David Delaney - Staff-Parish Relations Committee Chair

Judy Gambill - Christian Education

Joan Leaman - Children's Ministry Team Contact

Susan Paisley - Faith Community Nurse

Janice Bowers - Missions Team Chair

Dick and Caryl Stuhrike - Hospitality Committee Chair

Cindy Haley - Delegate to Annual Conference

Cindy Haley - Lay Leader

OPEN - U.M.W. President

Prayer Team - Prayer Chain Coordinator

Amy Castaldi - Nursery Coordinator

John Gambill, Betty Mundell

—Ad Council Member at Large