



West Grove United Methodist Church

OPEN • GROW • SERVE

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



***Fourth Sunday in Advent
Sunday, December 24, 2017***

11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship

OPEN

Prelude

Welcome

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)

Sue Curtis

One: Joy to the world!

Many: On this fourth Sunday of Advent, we come towards to culmination of our waiting.

One: Emmanuel! The Savior reigns!

Many: The angels proclaim good news to Joseph and Mary.

One: The angels sing to the shepherds.

Many: They sing to us: in the name of the Christ, they offer hope!

*Processional Hymn

"It Came upon the Midnight Clear"

UMH 218

*Opening Prayer (Unison)

Sue Curtis

Loving God, we give you thanks that you reach out to us and share good news with us. Through angels, you tell humanity of the tender news of the coming of Christ, God in the flesh. As angels share God's good news, we know that there are yet shadowy places that touch our lives that are still in need of radiant light. We pray for the promise of glowing light to be born afresh in our lives. May we rejoice and share Christ's presence in our lives. As our lives beam from Christ's presence, let us shine like stained glass with the warm glow of good news. We pray, Amen.

*Passing of the peace

Sue Curtis

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

Many: And also with you.

GROW

Advent Wreath Lighting

John and Karen Boyd

Moment for All Ages

Pastor Monica

Old Testament Lesson

Psalm 89: 1-4, 19-26

Sue Curtis

*Gospel Lesson

Luke 1: 26-38

Sue Curtis

***Response to the Lessons**

Sue Curtis

One: This is the word of God for the people of God.

Many: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Anthem

“Go Tell It On the Mountain”

Chancel Choir

Children from Age 4 through Grade 4 are dismissed to meet in room #10 for Children's Worship. Parents, please pick up your children immediately following the worship service in room #10. Children ages birth to 3 are welcome to attend the nursery in room #15 to participate in a story and guided activities.

Sermon

“Gabriel: Sharing God's News”

Pastor Monica

SERVE

***Hymn of Response**

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

UMH 229

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 Shirley

God of the Angels, you send Gabriels into our lives, so we might hear the news of Jesus. Help us to share with others the life-transforming power of Christ's way. As we offer our gifts, we pray that we may share good news of a great joy. Bless these gifts that God's incredible message of *God with us* may be known. Do not be afraid! God is with you! In the name of Jesus, we pray, Amen.

Gathered Prayer

Pastor Shirley

The Lord's Prayer

Pastor Shirley

***Hymn of Sending Forth** “Angels We Have Heard on High”

UMH 238

***Benediction**

Pastor Monica

***Choral Benediction**

“Blessing”

Chancel Choir

***Postlude**

** = Please stand as you are able* **Bold Print = Say in unison**

Old Testament Lesson: Psalm 89: 1-4, 19-26

A Maskil of Ethan the Ezrahite.

I will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, for ever;

with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

I declare that your steadfast love is established for ever;

your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. You said, 'I have made a covenant with my chosen one,

I have sworn to my servant David:
"I will establish your descendants for ever,
and build your throne for all generations."'"

Selah

Then you spoke in a vision to your faithful one, and said:

'I have set the crown on one who is mighty, I have exalted one chosen from the people.

I have found my servant David;

with my holy oil I have anointed him;
my hand shall always remain with him;
my arm also shall strengthen him.

The enemy shall not outwit him,
the wicked shall not humble him.

I will crush his foes before him
and strike down those who hate him.
My faithfulness and steadfast love shall be with him;

and in my name his horn shall be exalted.
I will set his hand on the sea
and his right hand on the rivers.

He shall cry to me, "You are my Father,
my God, and the Rock of my salvation!"

Gospel Lesson: Luke 1: 26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David.

The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said,

'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.'

Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?'

The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren.

For nothing will be impossible with God.'

Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

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.

Joy to the world! Let us worship and adore the Christ child! 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.***



Our Assisted Listening system is available to all who could benefit from additional amplification or assistance. Please see our soundboard operators for questions or to use a unit.

**EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY:** Our food supply is in need of replenishment. If you would like to donate to the pantry, the following are items are in high demand, as they are not covered by food stamps: **Laundry soap, body soap/wash, toothpaste, toilet paper, paper towels, house cleaning products, shampoo and conditioner.** Also needed are some staple items: **tea bags, juice boxes, coffee, juice, canned fruit, applesauce cups, jelly, cereals, snacks for kids, canned meats and stews, baked beans, ramen noodle soup packages, ketchup, and mayo.** Of course, any donation is a blessing to those in need.

**ELECTRONIC GIVING:** Electronic Giving Cards can be found in the friendship folders. They are a sign-act to put in the offering plate for those who give electronically if they wish.

**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED:** Just a reminder that the church office will be closed on **Monday, December 25th and Tuesday, December 26th** in observance of the Christmas holiday. The office will re-open on Wednesday, December 27th at 7:30 a.m. The office will also be closed on **Monday, January 1st** in observance of New Year's Day. The office will re-open on Tuesday, January 2nd at 7:30 a.m.

**FIFTH SUNDAY COIN COLLECTION:** Next **Sunday, December 31st**, is the fifth Sunday of the month. We will be collecting coins to benefit the Ronald McDonald House.

**FAMILY PROMISE: January 14-21 Volunteers needed!** Our families always enjoy a comfortable and hospitable week when they stay with us. Please come help us and enjoy serving in this fulfilling ministry. Here are the areas where your assistance is needed: **Set-up and break-down** of the Guest and Family/Dining Rooms, **Meal Preparation**-at the church, **Evening hosting**-enjoying a meal and relax time with the families, **Transporting cots**-on the final morning to Presbyterian Church of Kennett Square, **Breakfast and dessert baked goods**-can be prepared at home. Look for sign up in the lobby in the next couple of weeks with a list of food items needed as well as volunteering our service during the week our guests are here. Please contact **Joan Leaman at [jmleaman@comcast.net](mailto:jmleaman@comcast.net) or 484-643-2181.**

**RAP:** RAP will start the New Year together as we gather on **Friday, January 12th at noon.** Linda Peirson will be our monthly host. Hunter Hale from the Chester County Health Department will present a program on Food Safety. Bring your bagged lunch: desserts and beverages will be provided. Invite your friends!

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

**Sunday:**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
CHRISTMAS EVE**

8:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship with the PraiseWorks Band  
9:45 a.m. No Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship w/Chancel Choir  
4:00 p.m. Wiggly Giggly Service  
6:00 p.m. Family Christmas Eve Service  
7:15 p.m. Jenner's Pond Christmas Service (Alison Theatre)  
8:30 p.m. Contemporary Christmas Eve Service  
11:00 p.m. Traditional Christmas Eve Service w/ Holy Communion

**Monday:**

**CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED**

6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. SOS Ladies (#5)

**Tuesday:**

**CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED**

6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Girl Scouts Junior Troop #4138(#8 & 10))

**Wednesday:**

2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. Luther House Bible Study (Bldg. 1)

5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Daisy Troop #4282 (#12)

**Thursday:**

11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Music Practice (#6)

**12:00 p.m.-1:30 p.m. R.O.M.E.O.S. (Perkins on Rt. 41)**

5:15 p.m.-6:45 p.m. Daisy Troop #4251 (#12)

6:45 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (#6)

7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop #12 (#8, 9,10,11,12,13)

7:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m. PraiseWorks Band Rehearsal (Sanc.)

**Friday:**

No scheduled activities.

**Saturday:**

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

**Sunday:**

**First Sunday After Christmas**

**5th Sunday Coin Collection to Benefit Ronald McDonald House**

8:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship with the PraiseWorks Band  
9:45 a.m. Sunday School and Faith Learning Academy  
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship with the Chancel Choir

**God's Faithfulness ~ Your Stewardship**

**Report December 17, 2017**

**General Offering: \$8,030.00**

**Building Maintenance Fund: \$300.00**

**Combined Worship Attendance: 192**

**Emergency Groceries YTD: 181 bags**

**Anniversary Giving YTD: \$9,650.95**

**Prayer Bead Garden Donations: \$20.00**

**Total amount received: \$7,981.00**

**Goal-\$13,000**

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



The flowers gracing the altar this morning are given in memory of:

*Randy and Rachel Hampton  
We miss you.*

With love,  
Sandi, Jeremy, and Josh Hampton

# 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](mailto:office@westgroveumc.org) or 610-869-9334. After office hours and on weekends, please contact **Sara Ann Ramberger** at [sar57ver@verizon.net](mailto: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: Advent Activities & Services Mission Prayer Focus in: UMCOR

Cory Beattie  
(Shaub)  
Greg Bratton  
(Bratton)



Fran Bryan  
Dee Crawford

Nina Dickinson (B. Ranieri)

Jay Durham (Howard)

Tom Fagan

Ed Farrell (Babcock)

Laura Featherston

Bill Fili, Jr. (Bratton)

Muff Hurst

Juan Jimenez

Peg Kent

William Kirwin

Wanda Kreutzfeldt

Rosemary MacCoun

Dave McClain  
Lynn Morgan  
(McClain)  
Peggy Mowrer

Tim Mullen

Lola Nadolny (Hruz)

Nancy Pearo (Heist)

Rick Renzulli (McGinley)

Roann Schneider

The family of Bob Shappell  
(Mundell)

Rick Spencer (K. Smith)

Jeannie Sullivan

Maureen Stickel (Fackler)

Zach Trexler (Lytle)

Gisela Winkler (Mullen)

Ron and Marliss 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

### This Sunday, December 24th

**Ushers—8:30**

**Greeters—8:30**

**Ushers—11:00**

**Greeters—11:00**

**Acolyte 8:30/11**

**Nursery 8:30/9:45/11**

**C. Worship—8:30/11**

**Lay Reader—8:30**

**Liturgist—11:00**

**Moment All Ages**

**Prayer Room 8:30/11**

**Hospitality 8:30/11**

**Counters**

**Sound Booth**

The Chalmers

The Simonds

TBD

Joan Saller

OPEN/OPEN

OPEN/K. Smith/K. Rinehimer

OPEN/Joan Leaman

Joan Leaman

Sue Curtis

Pastor Monica

Cindy Haley/Sandi Hampton

The Chalmers/Linda Peirson

Bowers/Beauchamp

Keith Schneider & various

### Next Sunday, December 31st

The Catoias

The Catoias

TBD

Joan Saller

Anna Castaldi

Parker Featherston

OPEN/Joan Leaman

Julie Hughes

Janis Schrader

Pastor Monica

Pam Howard/Sandi Hampton

John Gambill/Don Hurst

Talley/Michaels

Keith Schneider & various

# 8:30 Contemporary Worship Service

## OPEN

**\*Opening Song** "Lord, I Lift Your Name On High" PraiseWorks Band

**Welcome and Ministry Opportunities** Pastor Monica  
*Please fill out the Friendship Register on the clipboard located on a chair in your row.  
First-time visitor or member, let us know you were here.*

**\*Celebration Set** "Angels, We Have Heard On High"  
"Emmanuel Has Come" PraiseWorks Band

**Passing of the Peace** PraiseWorks Band

## GROW

**Advent Wreath Lighting** The Castaldi Family

**Moment For All Ages** Pastor Monica

**Old Testament Lesson** *Psalm 89: 1-4, 19-26* Joan Leaman

**\*Gospel Lesson** *Luke 1: 26-38* Joan Leaman

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**Sermon** "Gabriel: Sharing God's News" Pastor Monica

## SERVE

**Offering** "Do You Have Room" PraiseWorks Band

**Offertory Prayer (Unison)** Pastor Jim

**Gathered Prayer** Pastor Jim

**The Lord's Prayer** Pastor Jim

**\*Closing Song** "Let The World Sing Gloria" PraiseWorks Band

**\*Benediction** Pastor Monica

*\*= Please stand as you are able* **Bold Print = Say in unison**