

# The Wesleyan Star

#### West Grove United Methodist Church

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## **April 2019**



"When Jesus arrived, he saw this huge crowd. At the sight of them, his heart broke like sheep with no shepherd they were. He went right to work teaching them." Mark 6: 34 (Message paraphrase)

In this season of Lent, we have been walking with Jesus in taking on love. We have been hearing him teach on the Sermon on the Mount along with disciples, followers, and the curious. Those who were hungry and

grumbling listened right alongside those who were cajoled into coming by their friends and family members. Jesus did not distinguish his teaching or compassion. He invited all of them into a transformed way of living of heart and community.

On Saturday March 23rd, I joined a group of about 100 people who participated in the Poverty Simulation hosted by the Constellation at Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. I was so glad that 8 folks from our church joined me there as well. These persons were from many of our partner churches and social service agencies across Southern Chester County and Delaware. We were grouped into family groups or individuals and given a individual and profile to live into for 4-15 minute weeks. Our goal was to have food, shelter, and utilities. This Poverty Simulation was designed by the Minnesota Community Action Partnership and facilitated by the Chester County Office of Community Development. Its purpose is designed to help audiences begin to understand what it might be like to live in a typical low-income family trying to survive from month to month. It is a simulation, not a game.

During the 2 1/2-hour simulation, the object is to sensitize audiences to the realities faced by low-income people. In the simulation, 44 to 82 participants assume the roles of up to 26 different families facing poverty. Some families are newly unemployed, some are recently deserted by the "breadwinner," some are homeless, and others are recipients of TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, formerly AFDC), either with or without additional earned income. Still others are senior citizens receiving Disability or Retirement or grandparents raising their grandchildren. The task of the "families" is to provide for basic necessities and shelter during the course of four 15-minute "weeks."

I was a part of 5 person family with a mother, father and 3 children, aged 16, 10, and 8. As the 39 year mom with a steady job as receptionist, I went each day for 8 minutes to work. The father just lost his job when the company folded, continued to "search" for work. In the third of 4 week, he was able to find work. The oldest daughter, 16 was pregnant and without health insurance, even though, I, the mother carried, insurance for myself. There were community resources available for the children's insurance, but we had to determine how to use them. Despite the best efforts of myself, the father, and the oldest daughter who sought to get resources, our family was ultimately evicted. We could not

keep our house. We relied on our kids to get food. The utilities being paid were unhelpful in a house that we no longer had.

The "family group" initially drafted a budget and wrote out a plan. We were level head and believed we had all the skills necessary to address the crisis ahead of us. We came to understand that there were some larger systematic changes needed. As our hearts beat in our chests, frustration of agencies closing due to being understaffed, and exploitation from payday loans came into effect, additional insights came into focus. The call to take on love is action for our feet. In order to love all of God's people, there is work for us to do with our neighbors. Join us at Southern Chester Opportunity Network to see how you toom can take on love, April 16th, here at West Grove UMC at 6:00 pm

When I went to "work" in the simulation, some of these facts were part of our discovery:

- Did you know that Chester County is the 35th wealthiest county in the country?
- Did you know that the median household income of over \$90,000?
- Did you know poverty level for a family of four is \$24,300 for a family of four?
- Did you know in Chester County, about 20% of schoolage children qualify for the Free or Reduced School Meal Program?
- Did you know for Kennett school district 40% of our school age children qualify for the Free or Reduced School Meal Program?
- Did you know for Oxford school district over 50% of our school age qualify for the Free or Reduced School Meal Program?
- Did you know for Avon Grove school district just under 30%our school age qualify for the Free or Reduced School Meal Program?

Did you the Chester County Food Bank estimates that of all the families in Chester County who are considered "food insecure," only 44% of them qualify for the SNAP program, otherwise known as Food Stamps. That means that over half of the families in our county struggling with access to adequate nutrition have to find other ways to meet their family's nutritional needs.

As we study the scriptures, we learn more about the context of Jesus' day and our own. We learn that when we are called to take on love, in the prayers of our hands and the actions of our feet. Like Jesus, we feed others (Keep on bringing in for the food pantry and working for changing in SNAP and WIC). Like Jesus, we work together to restore God's way of justice (Learn more to be an advocate for justice).

Let us walk this Holy Week together with Jesus, who invites to pray, to act, and to give our lives to follow him.

In God's Love, Pastor Monica



## April Worship at West Grove UMC



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

Services at 8:30 a.m. (Contemporary) and 11:00 a.m. (Traditional)

#### Fifth Sunday in Lent Sunday, April 7, 2019

All Worship Sunday

Communion Sunday, \*Emergency Aid,

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

**Scripture:** Matthew 7:1-5; Philippians 3:12-17

**Sermon:** Love Those You Judge

We all make snap judgments, have preconceived notions, and implicit bias. Jesus is calling us to love those we judge. Where can we raise our understanding and awareness and widen our compassion?

#### Palm Sunday **Sunday, April 14, 2019** Cantata "Upon This Rock"

**Scripture:** Matthew 21:1-11; Philippians 4:1-3

**Sermon:** Love the Crowds

The crowds that met Jesus were full of those who shouted Hosanna (Save us!), plotted against him, as well as those who were hoping for more food. On this Palm-Passion Sunday, Jesus calls us to love the whole crowd. At 11:00, we will be blessed the cantata, "Upon this Rock" from Peter's call.

#### **Maundy Thursday** Thursday, April 18, 2019 Noon and 7:00 p.m.

**Scripture:** Matthew 26:17-35; Philippians 4:4-9

**Sermon:** Love the Deniers

As friends and followers gathered with Jesus around the table with Jesus, their anxiety rose, was he doing the right thing? Couldn't this be accomplished in a different way? God's love encompasses our denials and betrayals.

#### Good Friday Community Service Friday, April 19, 2019 7:00 p.m.

Scripture: Luke 23:43; Philippians 4:10-14

**Sermon:** Love From the Cross

As Jesus is executed, he carries all the pain of world. We know that God stands with us in our places of pain. There is love from the cross. Join us as we gather with our brothers and sisters in the Avon Grove community in Good Friday worship.

#### Wiggly Giggly Easter Vigil Saturday, April 20, 2019 5:00 p.m.

Scripture: Matthew 28:1-10

Sermon: You are Loved!

Jesus is Alive! God's Love is always with us! Let us celebrate Easter! Bring the whole family!

#### **Resurrection Sunday** Sunday, April 21, 2019 **Memory Bells**

**Scripture:** Matthew 28:1-10; Philippians 4:15-23

Sermon: YOU ARE LOVED

We began Lent with the question, would Jesus love even me? Resurrection Sunday answers that question with certainty and eternity - YOU ARE LOVED! Share the GOOD NEWS!

#### New Sermon Series:

Did I hear you right? Half Truths from the Bible and Learning how to Read the Bible Sunday, April 28, 2019

Scripture: Romans 8:28-30; Psalm 150

**Sermon:** God's Way is more hopeful than Everything

Happens for a Reason

Not everything we think is in the Bible, is there! Join as we learn God's stronger hope!



Jenner's Pond Residents: Join us for worship is on April 21 at 11 am in the Alison Theater. Led by Rev. David Frame.

Join us or tune in on the Closed Circuit TV at Jenner's Pond.



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! Our next collection is April 7.



#### APRIL COFFEE FELLOWSHIP—Hosted by: 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.

# Pastor's Desk

#### **DISCIPLE BIBLE STUDY**

In March 1986, a small group of people gathered in Flower Mound, Texas, to talk about the need for a new comprehensive Bible study that would do more than teach the facts about our Scriptures. They wanted a study that would help people place themselves within the narrative of the Scriptures, develop a conversation with the Scriptures, and find their personal meaning for life in the Scriptures. Beyond that, they wanted a Bible study that would help persons grow in faith as they lived out a life of discipleship among the people of God.

DISCIPLE Bible Study was the result of those conversations. The plan called for a small group of people (modeled after Jesus Christ's twelve

disciples) to spend 34 weeks intensively studying the entire 66 books of the Bible, with daily readings from the Bible, prayer, lessons in a Study Manual, and a weekly gathering for two and a half hours. Church governing boards would need to approve the program, teachers would have to be specially trained, and students would pledge their commitment. Over 20 years later, we continue to teach this model because of the elasticity this book, the Bible. Join us as we dive into the Bible!

Small groups forming now to begin the first week of May. A cohort is forming around Sunday afternoon and a weekday evening. Please see Pastor Monica with your interest and availability. I can't wait to dive into God's word with you!

#### **UPDATE FROM PASTOR JIM**

Since we left Lahaina, Hawaii, we stopped at three islands of French Polynesia. Our stop in Tonga was cancelled because of heavy storms and we had to sail around the storm, yet we still had heavy seas. We then sailed to New Zealand and then made our way to Sydney, Australia.

One stop we both were looking forward to was Komodo Island in the Indonesian Islands. This island is where the Komodo Dragons live. They are a large lizards ranging up to 15 feet long and weighing several 100 pounds. Because they roam wild the only way you can get ashore is if you have a scheduled tour with a guide.

Singapore was our next stop and having been here many times we finally decided to visit the "Gardens by the Bay". These are fabulous gardens.

Our month of February had only 27 days in the month because we crossed the International Date Line and we lost a whole day. Before we crossed it we were 6 hours behind you in time. After we crossed it we 18 hours ahead of you on the same day!!! Very confusing!

Jim & Betty Mundell

#### **BOOKS MENTIONED IN SERMONS**

Devotions, by Mary Oliver

Prayers for a Privileged People

Touch: Pressing Against the Wounds of A Broken World by Rudy Rasmus

Movie—"Won't You Be My Neighbor"

The Complete Father Brown Stories by GK Chesterton

*Not Safe for Church: Ten Commandments for Reaching New Generations*, by Jasmine Smothers



# PRAYERS TO WALK WITH JESUS DURING HOLY WEEK



Almighty God, on this day your Son Jesus
Christ entered the holy city of Jerusalem
and was proclaimed King by those who spread
their garments and palm branches along his
way. Hosanna! May our voices praise with those
who doubt and deny, as well as those who are
hungry and thirsty. Let the palms be our
commitment to live to follow Jesus in the way
that leads to everlasting life.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen. (Inspired by United Methodist Hymn #281)



Loving God, you call us to live out one commandment - to love one another.

You call us to follow you.

You call us again and again.

Today, let us recommit ourselves to follow you through the mystery of faith, serving one another, and with all of our lives, we pray, Amen.



Gracious God, on this day, you stand in solidarity with us, for our pain is your pain.

We believe - help our unbelief - that you forgive us, for we do not know what we do, Amen.

(Feasting on the Word, Year A)



Almighty God, by the resurrection of Jesus
Christ and the power of Holy Spirit, you have
overcome death and opened the way to
everlasting and eternal life!
An empty tomb stands as witness, let your
church be a bold witness to proclaim in all we
do, "Christ is risen, Indeed!"
Let the love of God, the life of Jesus, and the
power of the Holy Spirit move now and forever,
Amen!

# Holy Week at West Grove UMC

Palm Sunday Sunday, April 14

8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Worship Services 11:00 a.m. Service features the Cantata "Come To The Cross and Remember"

We begin worship celebrating the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem and face towards the cross.

Maundy Thursday
Thursday, April 18, Noon and 7:00 p.m.

For all who have been disappointed and denied, join us at the communion table with Jesus denied by his friend on his way to the cross.

> Good Friday, April 19 24 Hour Prayer Vigil, Friday, 9 a.m.—Saturday, 9 a.m.

Sign up for a one-hour time slot to come into the church sanctuary or pray from home for the needs of our church family and for the needs of our community. Prayer requests and materials provided.

**Prayer Stations, 1:00- 3:00 p.m.**All are invited to come to the church and visit the prayer stations that the youth set up for us. Community Good Friday Worship Service ~ 7:00 p.m.

> On this evening, join us for a service of reflection with other churches in our community.

### Holy Saturday, April 20

Wiggly Giggly Easter Vigil Service ~ 5 p.m.

Do you wiggle and giggle? Bring your children to sing and experience the good news of Easter!



Sunrise Service at 7:00 a.m.

On this triumphant Easter morning, join us at our Sunrise Service outside in the Prayer Garden to proclaim Christ is alive!.

Contemporary Celebration Service at 8:30 a.m. Traditional Celebration Service at 11:00 a.m. Jenner's Pond Easter 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. Find the love you've been missing!

Nursery and Children's Worship provided at all services.





### West Grove United Methodist Church EASTER "EGG"STRAVAGANZA Sunday, April 14 3:00 P.M. TO 5:00 P.M.

West Grove United Methodist Church invites the all children in the community to an EASTER "EGG"STRAVAGANZA on

Sunday, April 14, 3:00 P.M. TO 5:00 P.M.

There will be crafts, games, a bounce house, story time, refreshments and, of course, egg hunts! Activities will occur continuously throughout the afternoon, so come as time allows. Our activities are geared for toddlers through elementary



**It's Easter Flower time!** We are now accepting orders for Easter flowers in Memory, Honor or in Celebration of a loved one, or just for you and your family.

**The last date to order flowers is Palm Sunday, April 14.** Please fill out this order form and place it with your check in the offering plate or inn Donna Fackler's mailbox. Checks can be made payable to "WGUMC" with memo line noting Easter Flowers. On Easter Sunday, we will include the list of those who purchased flowers in Memory, Honor or Celebration of a loved one.

If you have any questions, please contact Donna Fackler in the church office.

	Price each	Quantity	<u>Total</u>	
Tulips	\$5.00		\$	
Daffodils	\$5.00		\$	
Easter Lilie	s \$9.50		\$	

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



# GROW



### 2019 EPA Laity Academy



August 2 – 4 at Eastern University

#### 2019 EPA Conference Laity Academy

When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch...."Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people." –Luke 5:4,10b

Are you prepared to navigate the deep waters? Our lives and ministries are constantly bombarded by the waves that distract us from our commitment to Christ. When you are asked to cast your net and fish for disciples, do you know where to start? Do you know what to say?

Come join us at the 2019 EPA Conference Laity Academy, August 2-4, on the scenic campus of Eastern University in St. Davids, Pa., for an exciting weekend of classes, fellowship, worship, entertainment, food and service. Learn how you can Gather Disciples and Grow your Ministries. There are many more new classes this year including topics in Ministering to an Aging Congregation, Working With Conflict: Making the Most of Diversity, and more to be announced.

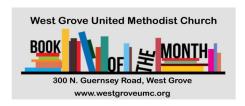
Watch for registration details. Sign up to be notified when the registration is open! If you have any questions contact Rick Wrisley, Laity Academy Dean, atrickwrisley@verizon.net.



May 4, 2019 ~ 9 a.m.- 3 p.m. Register today! Registration has been extended to April 14!

Visit www.westgroveumc.org for more information. Additional information is also in the lobby.

Sponsored by The Prayer Ministry Team

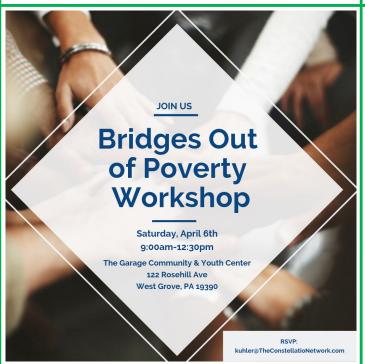


Are you interested in reading and discussing what others are reading? Join us on the 4th Thursday of each month at 5:45 p.m. to discuss a newer title. We'll meet in Room 3. See Pastor Monica for more information.

This month we are reading "Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life" by Richard Rohr. The fullness and wisdom if life often comes as we travel through life. What does spirituality look like as you fall upward? We will meet on **April 25 at 5:45 p.m.** to discuss it. Join us!

#### Coming Up:

May 23—"Glory Happening: Finding the Divine in Everyday Places" by Kaitlin Curtice





#### **BIBLE STUDY**

Wednesdays 2:00-3:00 PM Building #1

The Luther House Bible Study continues to meet on Wednesdays from 2:00-3:00 pm in Building #1.

Everyone is invited to join us as we delve deeper into God's Word and share love and support for one another.

**We are studying the book of Revelation.** If you have any questions, please see Cindy Haley or call her at 484-702-7071.

We hope you can join us!

#### 24 HOUR PRAYER VIGIL Friday, April 19

On Friday, April 19, we will hold a 24 hour churchwide prayer vigil. It will begin at 9 a.m. on Friday, and continue through the night until 9 a.m. on Saturday, April 20.

You may sign up below for a 1 hour time slot. More than one person can sign up for an hour.

Slips for prayer requests are available in the lobby.

Contact the Susan Paisley, the Prayer Ministry Team or Pastor Monica if you if you have questions.



#### WEST GROVE UNITED METHODIST MEN

Our next meeting will be held at Cochranville UMC on Monday, April 22.

The cost for the dinner and program is \$11.

SAVE THE DATE!





# SERVE





#### GSR 2019 - 30 Days of Poverty Awareness

Give|Serve|Restore is an annual project that gathers churches of Southern Chester County to collaborate for the common good of the community during the season of Lent.



#### **GIVE BACK**

**Food Drive:** Donate items to our Emergency Food Pantry to help feed families in our community. A list of suggested items is available on the shopping cart in the lobby.

**Fund Drive:** Give \$3 (for Kids) and \$30 (for adults) to support the Getting Ahead program, a 16-week workshop that that helps families forward in their journeys out of poverty. A special GSR giving envelope is available in the lobby. Please write your checks to "WGUMC" with GSR in the memo line.

#### **LEARN MORE**

Take part in opportunities for participants to challenge their own perspectives on poverty in a meaningful way.



**Bridges Out of Poverty Workshop**—This introductory workshop will give you the chance to explore new ways of understanding poverty and hear about the work the SCC Opportunity Network is doing to advance this initiative in our community. Contact us to register for our upcoming training on April 6th or request one for your group!

The Poverty Simulation in SCC—During the event, participants take on the identity of someone in poverty and work together with their family unit to simulate a month in poverty over the course of an hour. The simulation is based on the stories of real people and is meant to sensitize participants to the realities of poverty. Space is limited. Contact us now to sign up.

#### **GET INVOLVED**

Become a team member with one of these initiatives for ongoing engagement:



The Southern Chester County Opportunity Network (SCCON), has work groups focused on Housing, Transportation, Community Collaboration, and Employment & Economic Opportunity. Quarterly meetings update the larger group on progress and ways to get involved.

The Kennett Kindergarten Readiness Initiative, works to advance educational equity in the Kennett area by making sure that all children have access to the resources they need to start school emotionally, socially, and academically ready to learn. This initiative includes bi-monthly meetings as well as work groups focused on specific priority areas.

We encourage you to joining us and our brother and sisters across Southern Chester County during this Lenten season as we love and serve our community!

Visit TheConstellationNetwork.com/GSR to learn more!



# WEST GROVE UMC'S GIVE | SERVE | RESTORE 2019 GOALS

#### Help WGUMC meet our goals for Give | Serve | Restore 2019

**Fill 30 bags:** Pick-up a brown grocery bag and fill it with the items listed on the attached sheet. These supplies will be used in our Emergency Food Pantry and will also be delivered for Luther House residents to choose from.

**Raise \$1000** to support the Getting Ahead program Target for each family: \$30 per adult; \$3 per child

**Participate** in a project or educational seminar to raise our poverty awareness.

(See the previous page for more information about 2019 Give | Serve | Restore.)

# UMCOR SUNDAY FROM "THEY" TO "WE"

UMCOR is the United Methodist Committee on Relief, and yet they are anything but a typical committee. They are a program by the General Board of Global Ministries taking action when disaster strikes around the globe. We will be highlighting UMCOR during our next Special Sunday, on April 28.

UMCOR acts as the hands and feet of Christ's church, moving towards the most vulnerable in their time of need. Helping people in their darkest days doesn't have to be something "they" do, it can be something "we" do. We hope that you will give generously



this upcoming UMCOR Sunday so that we, along with our United Methodist congregations around the globe, can share compassionate relief in the midst of devastation. Until then, let's be praying for the volunteers, the lives they touch, and for hearts to be moved.



MOSAIC FORUM Saturday, April 6 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Join us on Saturday, April 6th for a forum to learn more about Mosaic SA. Their Founder and CEO Meyer Conradie, visiting from South Africa, and their US Mission Coordinator Cammy Brantzeg will be visiting us here at WGUMC from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.. We will have an opportunity to hear more about the mission of Mosaic and opportunities for missions trips.

The Mosaic Model envisions a South Africa where every orphan and vulnerable child is loved and cared for within a family setup, with enough resources and opportunities to thrive.

## **West Grove UMC**

# Pancake Sreakfasz

Saturday April 6 8:00—10:00 a.m.



Pancakes
Frank's Sausage
Fresh Fruit Cup
Orange Juice
Coffee, Tea, Milk

\$7 per person
Ages 3 & Under
Eat Free!!



WEST GROVE UMC

Saturday, April 27, 2019

Drive-Thru: 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Hood's BBQ will cater the meal of delicious BBQ pork, 2 sides and cornbread.

\$14.00



OPEN MARKET & CRAFT FAIR SATURDAY, SEPT.14

9 a.m.~2 p.m. INDOORS & OUTSIDE

VENDORS & FOOD TRUCKS
WANTED!

Interested?
Contact West Grove UMC:

(610) 869-9334 office@westgroveumc.org.

#### **WORSHIP & BEYOND**

Food, fun, fellowship and MUSIC was enjoyed by all! Thank you to everyone who came to enjoy the evening and support our PraiseWorks Band!







Family Promise of Southern Chester County in partnership with M&T Bank and Wilmington Trust present the 2nd Annual An Evening of Promise

> Saturday, April 6, 2019 | 6:30 p.m. Hartefeld National 1 Hartefeld Drive, Avondale, PA

Tickets \$75
Beer Tasting & Hearty Snack Stations
Cash Bar | Live & Silent Auctions | Dressy Casual

Visit www.familypromise.org to purchase tickets and preview the auction items.

### NURSERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



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 11:00 am service.

If you are interested in helping in the nursery (about once a month), please contact Amy Castaldi at ahass 17@hotmail.com or 610-468-4321.

#### PRAYER MINISTRY MONTHLY GATHERING

The Prayer Ministry team meets the **second** Tuesday of every month for a time of sharing, praying and mutual care. Our Focus: We pray for the needs of prayer ministry, each other, the congregation, the nation and the world.

We, the Prayer Ministry team are not a perfect people, "saints", but real people who have each been on a journey at various times in our lives. We welcome you to join us at our next

meeting on April 9 at 6:30 in the sanctuary/prayer room.

Personal requests are kept confidential and may be placed in the prayer request box in the back of the sanctuary. If you are going through a difficult time and want to stop in just to receive personal prayer during the monthly Tuesday prayer gathering timeframe (6:30-7:30) we welcome you as well....no need to stay.

If you're curious, but not sure, feel free to visit a couple times to see if this ministry is a good fit for you. No one is expected to pray audibly.



#### LOVE GARDENING? BE A COMMUNITY GARDEN MANAGER

The Trustees are looking for an interested individual(s) to manage or supervise the Community Garden Plots. Responsibilities would be keeping the Trustees informed of progress & needs, assignment of plots to individual or groups, checking to make make sure "gardeners" plant in timely fashion, water, weed, & harvest their plots. You do not need to "garden a plot yourself but can if you so choose. You may use the guidelines & instructions of a former manager or create your own plan of action.

The idea behind the Community Gardens was to raise fresh produce for the community food cupboards. Persons or groups may still do that or raise fresh produce for themselves.

The raised beds are falling in disrepair from lack of use. Unless we find interested gardeners or manager, the Trustees will not replace them & they will be removed entirely. This would allow us to maintain the area more efficiently. The Trustees hearts is to see the ministry continue but without someone to take on this responsibility, we do not see any other option.

It would not have to be a member of this Church to be the "Manager". Know someone that would be perfect? Bring his or her contact information to Rev. Monica or to members of the Trustee Board. For more information, contact Vernon Ramberger; 610-869-863 / spartan57@verizon.net.

#### **UMW FAITH CIRCLE**

The Faith Circle's mission is to make items which are distributed in our local area or through UMCOR. We have made many quilts, baby pads, book bags and other items which have been delivered to local shelters, Family Promise, and through UMW district appeals.

We will meet on Friday, April 5th and 19th at 9:30 a.m. in the Youth Room. Our new project this spring to make walker bags. We will also continue with quilt projects.



New folks are welcome! Contact Chris Curtiss for more information. Sewing skills are not necessary.



#### VBS 2019 To Mars and Beyond! July 15-19

Winter is here, but summer will be here

in the blink of an eye! Melanie and Joan are very excited about this coming year's theme for VBS: To Mars and Beyond from Cokesbury. Each day has a new story featuring a character who by the power of God was able to do an important job and experience God in a new way. Our stories for the week feature Daniel, Esther, Jesus and the parable of the good samaritan.

The dates for VBS will be July 15-19. We are looking to have positions filled by March. We are looking for some co-leaders for groups, assistants for activities like recreation and snack, and those who would be willing to help out with set up, small tasks throughout the day and clean up at the end of the week.

Please prayerfully consider what your VBS role might be this summer. You can contact Melanie Hartley or Joan Leaman to sign up and for information. The starter kit has been ordered and we are starting to gather decorations and supplies! We will be in touch with all volunteers with information about meetings and planning. Here are the areas we are are still looking to fill:

- Group leaders: Kindergarten, 1st grade; 3rd-6th grade
- Music/Opening/Closing
- Snack
- Science
- Recreation
- Missions
- Preschool
- Decorating

Looking forward to hearing from many of you as we anticipate a rich and rewarding experience for the children of our church and community, and ourselves, as well!

#### ANNUAL SPRING CLEAN-UP

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2019

The Trustees need your help on Saturday, April 13 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 1 p.m., to spruce up our church before Easter.

If you are unable to help, a donation for the purchase of flowers or cleaning supplies would be greatly appreciated.

Please pray for good weather and for many volunteers to get the jobs done so our church will continue to be a an inviting & welcoming place to all people in our community.

#### **INTERIOR:**

- Wash windows in all rooms (blinds, frames, sills)
- Wipe woodwork in sanctuary, and polish as necessary
- Wipe woodwork in rooms and polish as necessary
- Wipe and wax cabinets in North Wing classrooms and administrative offices
- Wipe and wax cabinets and woodwork in the Narthex

#### **OUTSIDE:**

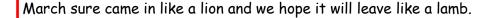
- Trim bushes in flowerbeds and along parking lots
- Weed flowerbeds and remove dead foliage
- Plant annual flowers
- Cleanup dirt along parking lot curbs
- Remove weeds in drainage basin
- Wash and dry all exterior doors
- Brush and apply sealant to Harmony Road stairs
- Remove weeds on bank on both sides of the Harmony Road stairs
- Move canopy frame from the field to the front lawn
- Fix the table cart

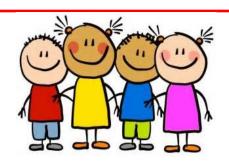
A sign up sheet will be posted in the Narthex. It will list the specific tasks-including tools and supplies necessary to complete the job. If you prefer to do a job before April 13th, please contact Vernon Ramberger at 610-869-3863.





Happy Spring!





March is a busy month at preschool. The children are learning about, Colors, Dinosaurs, and Spring. There have been so many fun activities from watching colors blend, digging for dinosaur bones, and reading fun stories.

Mid month, we had our Spring/Summer Consignment Sale. This event is a huge fundraiser for the CMO and Preschool program and I am so thankful for all of the support of this sale.

During the last week of the month the children will be learning about Community Helpers. We will have a visit from a chef, police officer, and the always exciting firefighters and trucks.

We will end the month with our Usborne Book Fair on the 27th and 28th. If you are around come check out the book selection. They make great Easter gifts!

# CMO CHAPEL TIME with Miss Melanie & Pastor Monica April Theme—God's Love for the World

Our friends will learn of God's love for the world through Easter, caring God's world, and living our lives.

#### Week 1—Jesus in My World

Books:

*"If Jesus Came to My House"* by Joan C. Thomas (younger)

"Am I Making God Smile?" by Jeanie St. John Taylor (older)

#### Week 2—Palm Sunday

Book:

"The Story of Easter: Spark Bible" (younger & older)

Week 3—Spring Break

#### Week 4—Easter

Book:

"The Story of Easter: Spark Bible" (younger & older)

#### Week 5—Joy in Good News

Book:

"I Will Rejoice" by Karma Wilson (younger & older)



### CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRY



For information on all children and youth activities, contact Melanie Hartley childyouthdirector@westgroveumc.org

### YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS



MISSON TRIP 2019 June 23-29 Clendenin, WV

Registration for our summer mission trip is now open! We will be heading to Clendenin, West Virginia to work with Next Step Ministries to aid in recovery from a severe flood in 2016. The mission trip is open to students entering grade 8 through graduating class of 2019. Contact Melanie Hartley for information!

#### **CONFIRMATION RETREAT** April 5-7 Gretna Glen Camp & Retreat Center

Our Confirmation class is heading to Gretna Glen for a weekend with other confirmation students to talk about their journeys. Be praying for open hearts and a great weekend!

#### YOUTH DODGEBALL April 12 7:00-9:00 p.m.

All youth, grades 6-12 are invited to join us for dodgeball. Students just need \$3 for pizza and a signed waiver form. Invite a friend and we hope to see you on the 12th for a fun night!

> YOUTH GROUP Sunday nights 6:00-7:30 p.m.

All 7-12 grade students are invited. There's games, snacks and great discussion!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS Children & Youth Sunday School Sunday mornings, 9:45-10:45 a.m.

Children's Sunday School

Jesus and the Children: March 10—April 14

Our Lenten unit will focus on Jesus' encounters with children. Jesus valued children and even told his disciples that the Kingdom of God belongs to those who have faith like a child. We will explore what Jesus has to say about children and what they can teach us adults.

#### **CHILDREN'S WORSHIP** & ALL WORSHIP SUNDAYS

All Worship & Communion Sunday - April 7

Children will have activity packets and other things to use during the worship service. Please look for details in your Children's Ministry emails.



Not on the email list? Contact Melanie Hartley. For information on all children's worship, activities and youth ministry, contact Melanie Hartley childyouthdirector@westgroveumc.org.



# FUN & FITNESS





RETIRED ACTIVE PEOPLE (R.A.P.)

April 12 12:00-3:00 p.m.



Thank you Jeanette Stryjewski and all your helpers for leading our March 8 gathering.

We also extend a very grateful thanks to Dr. Lonnie Luscavage for providing an informative presentation of major eye concerns and conditions.

RAP's next gathering is Friday, April 12 at noon. Our April co-leaders are Vernon and Sara Ann Ramberger.

The program following lunch will be presented by Melanie Weiler from Kennett Area Community Services. She will give a brief overview of the services they provide. Most people don't know that they serve all of Southern Chester County, including over 200 households in the West Grove area. Ms. Weiler will also share information about the Bridges Out of Poverty initiative – a.k.a. – The Southern Chester County Opportunity Network.

Come join us for an afternoon of fellowship as we enjoy our bagged lunch and delicious desserts provided by some of our members. Beverages are also provided.

Everyone is welcome! Bring a friend or two and enjoy time out with friends and a wonderful program. See you on the 12th!!!



R.O.M.E.O. Retired Older Men Eating Out

April 25 12:00-1:30 p.m.

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 610-724-0477,** if you have any questions or if you are newly retired. Bring your retired friends.

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

JULIET...Just us Ladies
Interested
in Eating Together
Saturday, April 13
9:00-10:30 AM

Juliets meet for breakfast and fun... Second Saturdays at 9:00! Join us!

We meet at the Sunrise Cafe



CMO ART SHOW Tuesday, April 30 5:30-7:00 p.m.

Join us for the WGUMC CMO and Preschool Art

Show. Art is such a wonderful way to express yourself and your creativity. Art is a process and we love for the children to be able to express themselves though art. Every child will have art on display in the Sanctuary. Each class has also created two art projects. We will be auctioning off these class projects through a silent auction. The classes have worked really hard on creating these beautiful works of art and we hope that you will see the love and beauty in each of them.

Bidding on Class Art projects will be from 6:00-6:30.

Everyone is invited and welcome to join us. Light refreshments will be available.

# STEWARDSHIP



In the midst of health scares, diagnoses, and changing life challenges, we turn to our church family. As a church, we together are the body of Christ both here locally and around the world against the incoming trials of poverty, natural disasters, hatred, war, and disease.

Our faith grounds us in hope, buoys us in Easter faith, and urges us to action in love. Our ministries are the very actions of generous love that Jesus calls

us to live out. Together, we offer the good news every day. When we give thanks to God, we give generously!

In a changing world, our membership has changed. Some have relocated for work or retirement. Others have joined the Church Triumphant. Our finance team has been working to refinance our mortgage ahead of an anticipated adjustable rate in the fall. Our trustees have been planning and preparing well to anticipate upcoming capital needs for our building.

We are committed to equip mission and ministry plans, but we need your help. Apportionments, our connectional giving and impact here and throughout the world through the United Methodist Church, has been deferred and reviewed quarterly to paid when funds are available. Our budget includes a projected shortfall of approximately \$61,000 with our apportionments. Historically, West Grove has been faithful in apportionment and connectional giving.

New opportunities for stewardship and giving are coming! Consider how your generosity shares the gospel of Jesus with those in West Virginia and Philippines as well as provides as global health initiatives in the Congo and much more.

In God's Love,

Pastor Monica



Our opportunity list gives you a chance to give beyond your regular tithe.

Consider how you might impact our congregation and community.

ltem	Oty	Approx Cost
Monitors- Sanctuary (80") (Dream in Process!)	2	\$4,000
Electronic Sign at the street	2	\$15,000
Electronic Sign at Rt. 1	1	\$50,000
2 inch slat blinds for classrooms—FULFILLED!	25	\$500
2 laptops (1 for Director of Children and Youth Ministry, 1 for Volunteer Office with docking station)		
FULFILLEDI	2	\$1,500

## THE ARCH OF JUSTICE BY BISHOP PEGGY JOHNSON

According to the Visitor's Center at the "St. Louis Arch" National Park, this city has always been "the gateway to the west." The earliest major trails that settlers used to travel to points west went through St. Louis, Missouri.

This "Show-Me State" metropolis is also known for some strategic and historic court cases during the 19th century. One was the case of Dred Scott (1799-1858), a slave who petitioned the court for his freedom in 1847. Scott won his freedom, only to face numerous appeals trials that eventually landed in the U.S. Supreme Court. The justices ruled that slaves were "property" and had no right to file lawsuits in courts. Scott and his wife Harriet were sent back into bondage. But in the years that followed, they returned to that same courthouse and were finally emancipated in 1857.

Another historic case in St. Louis dealt with the issue of women's suffrage. Virginia Minor (1824-1894) sued the state in 1874 for the right to vote according to the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. She was denied, and her petition also ended up at the Supreme Court, where the decision of the lower courts was upheld. Sadly, Minor never lived to see the passage of the 19th Amendment that finally gave women the right to vote in 1920. However, her valiant efforts were part of the movement that eventually gave equal rights to women at the voting polls.

The General Conference of The United Methodist Church met in St. Louis February 23-26 for an historic special, called session. The order of business was to decide whether to retain or remove two of the denomination's bans: one on hosting or officiating at same-gender weddings; and the other on ordaining self-avowed, practicing homosexual clergy.

For two and a half years a carefully chosen, inclusive group of 32 United Methodists from all over the globe gathered nine times to find A Way Forward for the church. They finally presented three possible plans for consideration: the One Church Plan, the Connectional Church Plan and the Traditional Plan.

The Council of Bishops overwhelmingly supported the One Church Plan. However, the decision was in the hands of the 833 voting delegates to this worldwide assembly.

Their gathering began with a spirited day of prayer, then a day of legislative committee work and finally a day of plenary voting. The voting process was confusing, to say the least, with many amendments and points of order and rulings from the denomination's top court, the Judicial Council.

In the end, the international body of conservative, moderate and progressive members voted by a narrow margin to support the Traditional Plan. This plan maintains our current policy that does not allow people who are self-avowed, practicing homosexuals to be ordained ministers and does not permit our pastors to perform, nor our churches to host, same-gender weddings or holy unions.

Some enforcements to the church's current Book of Discipline were also added in this plan. The full Traditional Plan is now in the hands of the Judicial Council to be vetted for constitutionality.

Some petitions have already been ruled as unconstitutional, but time and the tedium of

Parliamentary Procedure did not allow for much correction. The Judicial Council will rule on which parts remain valid at their April 23-25 meeting.

There is deep disappointment and hurt in the LGBTQIA+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual+) community and among their family, friends and supporters at this time.

Hundreds of people came to St. Louis to advocate for the One Church Plan. It would have removed the restrictive language in the Book of Discipline and allowed pastors, churches, Boards of Ordained Ministry and Annual Conferences to act out of their conscience on these matters. In addition, over 15,000 young adult United Methodists signed a petition imploring the church to begin to open the doors to the LGBTQIA+ community. I encourage you to remember them in your prayers and reach out to offer them comfort, conversation and encouragement.

After General Conference ended, I looked up and saw the Arch, this huge stainless-steel tourist attraction, built in 1965, that reminds us about our history of western expansion. St. Louis' slogan is "Still Moving On."

Likewise, the church is still moving on in mission and ministry for Jesus Christ. Nothing can stop the church from evangelizing and doing the work of Christ. People of goodwill who believe differently about the important issues voted on at General Conference are and should be "still moving on" together to reach and help heal a hurting, broken world. We still have a "charge to keep and a God to glorify!"

St. Louis' Old Courthouse, the scene of historic legal battles against oppression and for civil rights, is now a museum located fittingly next to the Gateway Arch. The two should inspire in us another message for those whose hearts are grieving at this time. The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. once famously said, "The Arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice."

The gleaming St. Louis Arch also bends toward justice. Dred and Harriet Scott were eventually a freed from slavery. Women finally got the right to vote. Some important, lasting moments in history happened right there in this gateway city.

Here and now, during our winter of discontent, something important and lasting happened in The United Methodist Church as well. We will never be the same.

I believe with all my heart that eventually The United Methodist Church will become a welcoming and affirming denomination in ministry with the LGBTQIA+community. Like the arc of justice, the wait is long, and the struggle can last a long, long time.

Habakkuk 2:3 says "For still the vision awaits its appointed time; it hastens to the end, it will not lie. If it seems slow, wait for it, it will surely come, it will not delay."

The temptation for many is to give up. But I implore the church to continue the work of relationship-building and holy conversation and fervent prayer, until there is a new day. Then the consciences of all will be respected and the lives of all will be welcomed as no longer strangers in God's household.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & THANK YOUS

The church office will be closed on Monday, April 22 in observance of Easter Monday.

The office will re-open on Tuesday, April 23.

The Hospitality Committee is looking for volunteers to serve coffee and drinks on the 1st or 2nd Sunday after the 11:00 service. Please contact Caryl or Dick at 302-239-1743, if you can help.

#### **HEARING ASSISTIVE DEVICES**

We want you to HEAR the word of God when you come to church to hear the word of God.



Hearing assistive devices are located in the sound booth in the back of the sanctuary. They can go right over your ear and amplify the sounds for you.

We give thanks to God the technology we have in the sanctuary that can help **everyone** hear.

#### LET'S GET SOCIAL!

Our Facebook page is a great resource for keeping up-to-date on what is going on here at church.

Be sure to "Like Us" on Facebook and check-in" when you are here!

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#### PRAYER ROOM

Need prayer?

Our prayer room is open each Sunday after worship for anyone seeking prayer.



# GRANTS TO ASSIST IN DEFRAYING HIGHER EDUCATION COSTS

April 29 is rapidly approaching. On that date, the Education Society of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church will be accepting grant applications to assist worthy individuals with defraying the cost of higher education for the 2019-2020 school year. The application is available on the Conference website. It can be accessed as "Grants to Defray Higher Education Costs." at the following website address.

epaumc.org/administration/finance/higher-education-scholarships

All applications received in the Conference Office (between and including) April 29 to May 13 will be considered for a grant. Like last year, all applications will be considered.

Unless there is some disqualification, grant recipients will be randomly selected.

It is important that this information be provided to church members who plan to attend an institution of higher learning in the fall of 2019. Please communicate this grant opportunity to your congregation as soon as possible.

Applications are available in the lobby of the church.

Pastor Monica will be happy to walk you through the process including necessary signatures.

If you have questions, please contact the Education Society Chairperson, Al Adey at ahadey@verizon.net.

# AVON GROVE MINISTERIUM SCHOLARSHIPS

If you are graduating from High School this year from Avon Grove High School or Avon Grove Charter School and considering a helping profession in any post secondary school educational experience, consider applying for the Avon Grove Ministerium Scholarship. See your guidance counselor's office for scholarship application.

### EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE NEWS

#### **Clergy and Laity Training**

# Churches as First Responders to the Military and Veteran Population



Council for Relationships' Operation Home and Healing provides: counseling and behavioral health education for service members, Veterans, and their families.

Training for *Churches as First Responders to the Military and Veteran Population* includes:

- Training in recognizing military or Veteran congregant families facing problems
- · Understanding military culture and its impact on families
- Identifying pastoral roles in ministering to congregants with Moral Injury.

Saturday May 11, 2019 9:00am - 12:00pm

Register by May 6, 2019

\$10 per person

865 Main St, Phoenixville, PA

Register at:

https://www.eiseverywhere.com/40598

<u>b</u>

Sponsored by: EPAUMC Connectional Ministries, Committee on Disabilities Concerns

Presented by:

\_council for Relationships Will Barnes, D.Min, MFT, Clinical Fellow and approved AAMFT

supervisor, CH, COL, Ret.

**Wanda Sevey,** MDiv, LMFT Director of Clinical Training: Post Graduate Certificate Program in Marriage and Family Therapy for Clergy

"I appreciated the workshop for several reasons. It broadened my understanding of the trauma of many military personnel and the way that trauma impacts their family. It gave practical steps for engaging military, veterans, and their families. Most of all, though, the workshop helped me realize that, while trained counselors should treat the medical aspects of PTSD, clergy can and should address the moral injury resulting from their service. Moral injuries arise when people question how the trauma they have experienced in war impacts their understanding of and relationship with God."

Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith, Director Connectional Ministries, Peninsula Delaware Conference

SAVE THE DATE

### DISTRICT CONFERENCE

May 5th Lima UMC

# SAVE THE DATE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

June 13th-15th Oaks, PA





### UMC: GENERAL CHURCH NEWS

# UMCOR GRANTS AID INITIAL CYCLONE RESPONSE

By Linda Bloom and Joao Sambo\*,

United Methodists are starting to respond to those affected by Cyclone Idai, which left devastation in parts of three African countries and killed 500 people, with hundreds more still missing.

The United Methodist Committee on Relief has allocated three \$10,000 grants for immediate, emergency short-term funding to meet basic human needs in Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi. Those needs include water transportation and storage for drinking, cooking and personal and domestic hygiene, along with temporary shelter.

Cyclone Idai made landfall near Beira, the fourth-largest city in Mozambique, on March 14. Over the next week, Idai left a path of destruction in Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi.

High levels of poverty in the region make the cyclone's impact much worse, said Isabel Apawo Phiri, one of the top executives of the World Council of Churches, who was born in Malawi.

Thousands of families in the Sofala, Zambézia, Manica and Inhambane provinces of Mozambique are among the displaced.

Respeito Chirrinze, UMCOR's disaster management coordinator in Mozambique, told United Methodist News Service that the \$10,000 grant would help meet needs in the communities in Nicoadala and Gondola. "Because there is aid being channeled to Sofala and Manica, many nonprofit organizations seem to be forgetting other areas where people are isolated but in need of assistance, too," he said.

A campaign for donations has been launched throughout The United Methodist Church in the Mozambique Episcopal Area, Chirrinze noted.

"People in the affected areas have no potable water, so we need water purifiers, we need mosquito nets, we need medicine, we need school supplies, we need everything — including funds that will enable us purchase those items that we cannot bring from our own home," he said.

But assessing both immediate and long-term needs is difficult, especially with communication systems weak or inoperable.

"It is estimated that more than 347,000 people are at risk because some are in isolated areas, others on trees, some because they have not been eating for many days," Chirrinze said. "People are surviving under inhuman conditions," he added.

At the bishop's office, all conference officers decided to donate 10 percent of their salaries in March to support the needs of the survivors. At Malanga United Methodist Church, an inner-city congregation in Maputo, the Mozambique Christian Council will hold a solidarity worship service on March 22 and those attending will bring items to support those in affected areas.

The United Methodist Church in Zimbabwe "has responded wholesomely" to the crisis, said the Rev. Alan Masimba Gurupira, assistant to Bishop Eben K. Nhiwatiwa. The UMCOR grant "will go a long way to respond towards provision of temporary shelter, food and water supplies," he added.

If your heart is moved to assist in this disaster, you can make a donation to UMCOR marked for the cyclone relief through the offering. 100% of offerings to UMCOR go to the designated disaster.

# DEACONESS MOVEMENT AT HARRIS MEMORIAL COLLEGE

By Gladys Mangiduyos

In Romans 16, the apostle Paul encouraged the early Christians to welcome "Phoebe, a deacon of the church at Cenchreae" and to "help her in whatever she may require from you."

In today's United Methodist Church, Phoebe would be considered a deaconess, a laywoman called by God to full-time vocation in ministries of love, justice and service. The deaconess movement — which Phoebe unwittingly began — is flourishing in the Philippines.

Simultaneous with the birth of the institution was the modern-day birth of the deaconess movement, which began with a small group of young women who usually taught music and hygiene, especially to children. As more women

committed their lives to this vocation, their numbers grew, and their ministries became more diverse and dynamic.

Often, candidates enter Harris right out of high school. Each must write a personal narrative of why she wants to become a deaconess. All incoming students receive needbased partial or full financial scholarships. The school's deaconess program offers bachelor's degrees in elementary and early childhood education and Christian education.

Deaconesses model Jesus' ministries: teaching, preaching and reaching out to people, especially those who are less privileged. In public and private institutions, they serve as kindergarten teachers, Christian educators, curriculum writers, guidance counselors, music ministers, youth directors and more.

# APRIL HIGHLIGHTS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Knit Wits SOS Ladies	2 Tech Team Meeting Trustees Meeting	3 Bi-Monthly Staff Meeting Luther House Bible Study	4	5 Confirmation Retreat UMW Faith Circle	6 Confirmation Retreat Pancake Breakfast Missions Mosaic Meeting Daily Reflections
7 Confirmation Retreat All Worship Communion & Emergency Aid Sunday	8 Knit Wits SOS Ladies	9 Prayer Gathering	10 Full Staff Meeting Luther House Bible Study	11	12 RAP Youth Dodgeball	13 Spring Clean-Up JULIETs Daily Reflections
14 Palm Sunday Cantata Eggstravaganza	15 Knit Wits SOS Ladies	16 Finance Meeting Ad Council Meeting	17 Luther House Bible Study	18 Maundy Thursday Maundy Thursday Service	19 Good Friday 24 Hour Prayer Vigil UMW Faith Circle Good Friday Community Service	20 24 Hour Prayer Vigil Daily Reflections Wiggly Giggly Easter Service
Easter Sunday Sunrise Service Coffee Fellowship Jenner's Pond Worship Memory Bells  28 UMCOR Sunday Girl Scout Mother Daughter Cook- Off	Easter Monday— Office Closed Knit Wits SOS Ladies UMM Meeting  29 Knit Wits SOS Ladies	23 Missions Meeting SPRC Meeting  30 CMO Art Show	24 Luther House Bible Study	25 ROMEOs Book of the Month	26	27 Chicken BBQ Daily Reflections



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



### ~ 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 Jim Mundell - Associate Pastor, Chaplain at Jenner's Pond <u>Jim.mundell@westgroveumc.org</u>

Melanie Hartley—Youth & Children's Ministry Director <u>Childyouthdirector@westgoveumc.org</u>

> Donna Fackler - Church Administrator <u>Donna.fackler@westgroveumc.org</u>

> Kim Nuzzaci - Administrative Assistant adminasst@westgroveumc.org

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

Sandy Deckard—Handbell Choir Director daysan5@comcast.net

Tracy McLaughlin—Children's Morning Out Director <u>Tracy.mclaughlin@westgroveumc.org</u>

Maira Tena - Nursery Attendant

#### **Board and Committee Leadership**

Carol Whelan - Administrative Council Chair Gene Aucott - Trustee Chair Marc Simmons - Finance Chair Scott Steele - Treasurer Janice Bowers - Financial Secretary Dick Stuhrke - SPRC Interim Chair Steve May—Tech Team Leader Dick Stuhrke—Scouting Coordinator Melanie Hartley - Christian Education Joan Leaman - Children's Ministry Team Contact Susan Paisley, RN - Faith Community Nurse Janice Bowers - Missions Team Chair Dick and Caryl Stuhrke - Hospitality Committee Chair Susan Paisley, Mike Chalmers -Delegates to Annual Conference Pastor Monica - Committee on Lay Leadership OPEN - U.M.W. President Susan Paisley - Prayer Ministry Coordinator Karen Hruz-Emergency Food Pantry Coordinator Amy Castaldi - Nursery Coordinator John Gambill, Betty Mundell

> —Ad Council Member at Large Carol Whelan—CMO Advisory Board Chair Sara Ann Ramberger—R.A.P Coordinator