



The Wesleyan Star

West Grove United Methodist Church

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January 2020



*When the Magi heard the king, they went; and look,
the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them
until it stood over the place where the child
was. When they saw the star, they were filled with
joy. " Matthew 2: 9-10*



As we travel into a new
decade, we, like the Magi, are
following a path to draw near
to Jesus.

This 'Blessing of the Magi' comes from Jan
Richardson, ordained elder in the Florida Annual
Conference.

*There is no reversing this road.
The path that bore you here goes in one
direction only,
every step drawing you down a way
by which you will not return.*

*You thought arrival was everything,
that your entire journey
ended with kneeling in the place
you had spent all to find.*



*When you laid down
your gift,
release came with such
ease, your treasure
tumbling from your hands
in awe and benediction.*

*Now the knowledge of your leaving
comes like a stone laid over your heart,
the familiar path closed
and not even the solace
of a star to guide your way.*

*You will set out in
fear.*

*You will set out in
dream.*

*But you will set out
by that other road
that lies in shadow
and in dark.*

*We cannot show you
the route that will*

*take you home;
that way is yours
and will be found in the walking.*

*But we tell you, you will wonder
at how the light you thought
you had left behind
goes with you,
spilling from your empty hands,
shimmering beneath
your homeward feet,
illuminating the road
with every step you take.*

—Jan Richardson

*May your New Year be filled with journeys that lead
you nearer to the heart of Jesus.
May you know peace and hope, love and joy in 2020!*

In God's Love, Pastor Monica





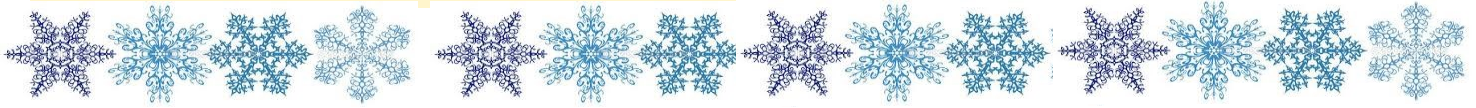
January Worship at West Grove UMC



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)

Sermon Series: "ZZZ"



Sunday, January 5, 2020
Communion Sunday and Emergency Aid
Epiphany Sunday

*Food Pantry Day is the first Sunday of each month

Sermon: Brilliant Star-filled Vision
Scripture: Matthew 2: 1-12,
Psalm 72: 1-7, 10-14

Start the new decade with a clear plan and vision, God's brilliance and guidance.

Sunday, January 12, 2020
Baptism of the Lord Sunday
Reaffirmation of our Baptisms

Sermon: Remember God's vision of you
Scripture: Matthew 3: 13-17,
Acts 16: 11-15

In our baptism, we are claimed as God's beloved children. Remember and be thankful!

Sunday, January 19, 2020
Human Relations Sunday
Memory Bells
Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Sermon: God's Dream for Humanity
Scripture: Luke 16: 19-31,
Psalm 40 (CEB)

God's dream for humanity is that all of God's people know the goodness of God. Let us work together for God's reign.

Sunday, January 26, 2020
Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Sermon: 2020: West Grove
Scripture: Acts 2: 1-4, 14-18, 21,
Matthew 4: 18-23

Where is God calling our church into the future? Come and hear God's plan for 2020 for our church.



Jenner's Pond Residents:

Join us for worship is on **January 12th** at 11 am in the **Alison Theater**.

Led by Pastor Jim.

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

First Sunday

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 January 5, 2020



JANUARY COFFEE FELLOWSHIP—Hosted by: Music Teams

Due to 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

Thank you for the generous pastor and staff gifts given from the congregation this year.

For each gift, each card, each hug, each prayer, we thank you.

We are blessed by your generosity and thoughtfulness.

Thank you!



Over the Christmas holiday, carpet installation will take place in Rooms 14 and 16.

This capital replenishment is a part of our Trustee's stewardship of our building and good planning.

We give thanks for the generous donation and the stewardship of assets.

We give thanks to God for Carol Whelan who has served faithfully for many years as our Administrative Council chair. She completed her service in 2019.

We give thanks to God for Janice Bowers who served as our Mission Chair. She completed her service in 2019.

We give thanks for their leadership.



Our Joy to the World comes together with many hands.

Extra candy canes go to:

- ♦ Dick and Caryl Stuhrke for stuffing bulletins
- ♦ Keith Schneider and Mike Duvall for Audio-Visual preparations and presentation
- ♦ Heather Ditzel and her family for creating beautiful spaces for worship to occur
- ♦ Donna Fackler for undergirding our worship and mission, plus many bulletins, rubrics, and inserts!
- ♦ Melanie Hartley for seamlessly coordinating our children and youth ministries
- ♦ Betsy Smith and Sandy Deckard for beautiful music this Christmas season.

- ♦ And all of those elves behind the scenes who are unseen, but jingle with joy to serve!

BOOKS & MOVIES MENTIONED IN SERMONS IN DECEMBER

12/1/19

- (1) <https://cac.org/economy-old-and-new-weekly-summary-2019-11-30/>
- (2) <http://www.poetickinetics.com/visions-in-motion/>
- (3) Amanda Froelich, "Mexican artist melts 1,527 guns, makes shovels to plant trees," pocho.com.
<http://www.pocho.com/chilango-artist-melts-1527-guns-makes-shovels-to-plant-trees/?fbclid=IwAR0HOASU423v6Aj39ao38XrLipvtRoV-FtKY8LsD5V33rCPMEz3ZkAhWN4E>
- (4) Stacy Simpson Duke in Feasting on the Word, Year A, Volume 1 (edited by David Bartlett and Barbara Brown Taylor). Isaiah 2:1-5, Pastoral Perspective, page 5.

12/8/19

(1)

<https://healthcareinnovation.vermont.gov/sites/vhcup/files/documents/Work%20Sheet%203%20-%20Defense%20Mechanisms%20article.pdf>

(2) <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/02/07/nyregion/sweet-gum-tree-tamiflu.html>





GROW



PRAYER MINISTRY MONTHLY GATHERING



The Prayer Ministry team meets the **second Tuesday of every month** for a time of sharing, praying and mutual care. **We welcome you to join us at our next meeting on December 10 at 6:30 p.m.** 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'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.



BIBLE STUDY

**Wednesdays
2:00-3:00 PM, Bldg. #1**

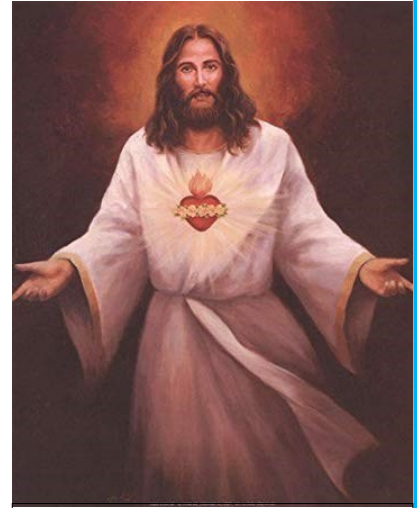
The Luther House Bible Study continues to meet on Wednesdays from 2:00-3:00 pm in Bldg. #1.

The group is taking a break from their study of Isaiah for an Advent Study entitled, "The Weary World Rejoices" by Life-way Women.

If you have any questions, please see Cindy Haley or call her at 484-702-7071. We hope you can join us!

"Journey to Jesus, Journey to Love"

We will be offering "Journey to Jesus, Journey to Love," which is a spiritual experience to help you become more in tune with your inner self, deepen your relationship with Jesus, and become more aware of his passionate love for you and others.



Artist T. C. Chiu

"Journey to Jesus, Journey to Love" will be offered **on Sundays beginning February 2 to March 1 from 9:45 to 10:45 AM.**



**Care Givers
Support Group
will take a break.**

**If you are
interested in
getting more
information about
this group or would**

**like to participate, please contact
Susan Paisley at
sbrintonpais1@verizon.net
610-268-3305**



New Short-term Courses FOUNDATION DOCUMENTS OF METHODISM

What do Methodists believe? This course will focus on the documents that form the basis for our Methodist belief. These documents date back to the founding era of Methodism and stem from John Wesley himself. When United Methodist pastors are ordained, they are questioned about their support for these documents. However, many Methodist laypeople have never encountered them. You may be surprised by some of the beliefs and practices these documents espouse. The course will run for 3 weeks, beginning Sunday, January 12, and will meet from 9:45 - 10:45 a.m. in Room 5 (the Men's Class meeting room). The course will be taught by Dr. David Frame, retired UM pastor. This course will be immediately followed by a second short-term class, And Know that I am God: Our future with hope, beginning Sunday, February 2, in which Pastor Monica will present information about plans and legislation for the future of United Methodism that are to be considered at the General Conference in May. As a member of the 2020 Delegation to General Conference and Jurisdictional Conference and adjunct instructor for previous General Conferences, Pastor Monica will present the process for voting at the General Conference, Annual Conference, as well as the implications for the local church. Pastor Monica's class will also meet on Sundays from 9:45 - 10:45 a.m. in Room 5. All interested persons are welcome to attend these two courses.



Thank you Ralph Curtiss for all the hard work over several days to create better drainage at the end of the church driveway.

Now, when we have rain, it doesn't turn into a lake there. We are all very grateful for your hard work and generosity!



Dear West Grove UMC,

Today we delivered a truck load plus a car load of toys to the Methodist Home for Children in Philly. It was wonderful to see firsthand the great ministry that goes on there. Please pass along to your men and church members that because of their generous giving many children will again have Christmas gifts. Please check out their web site tomorrow as all our churches will be

recognized.

Blessings, Rev. Mark Beideman



Dear Church Family,

We would like to thank you for your prayers, phone calls, visits and meals during our healing process from the car accident.

It meant a lot to us having the love and encouragement that you gave us. It helped us get through this difficult time and your prayers have been answered.

In Christ's love,

Reed and Joyce Smith



Kennett Area Community Service

Dear Friends at West Grove United Methodist Church,

It is heartening to see kindness grow out of crisis, to know that seeds of generosity always remain ready to sprout just when they're needed the most. Thank you for your gift of 222.6 pounds of food on October 17, 2019 during this time of need.

The caring spirit that pervades in this community we all call home, and an ever-evolving demonstration that there are countless ways to show generosity and kindness, is something of which we can be proud.

Every donation, every act of service is unique, and every person is valuable. Every one of these acts of generosity creates our lifeblood- the thing that strengthens us in times of calm and shores us up against future storms.

This is philanthropy. *This* is the love of humankind. *This* is the power of generosity, and this connectivity and love is what we, as Kennett Area Community Service (KACS) seek to cultivate and grow.

Yours in gratitude,

Leah M. Reynolds, M.S.P.L., Executive Director



MISSIONS AND MINISTRY



CHRISTMAS Giving Tree Thank you!

Thank you to everyone for taking a tag, then shopping for the perfect gift and wrapping them all so beautifully! Our families were overjoyed to see all the wrapped gifts for their kids! We provided gifts for 11 families, lots of residents at Twin Pines and many Christmas dinners.

Thank you to Joan Leaman who worked tirelessly to make this happen.

Merry Christmas everyone!!

COAT DRIVE

Thank you to all who donated coats to our annual coat drive.

ABVM was happy to receive the 64 coats we donated for their Avon Grove Christmas Basket Program for the second year in a row. The program assists 400 families in our area.



Thank You!

Many residents of the Luther House contacted the church to let them know how much they appreciated the crafts, cookies and candy that were distributed to all four Luther Houses. Many were surprised when they returned home to find the gift bags hanging on their doorknobs and called to say Thank You!



Thank you to the many volunteers who worked to make this Christmas ministry happen!



This is our 14th year of donating boxed valentines to the children of Penn London Elementary who do not have Valentines to give to their classmates.

Please consider buying a box of valentines and dropping it off in the collection box provided in the church lobby. **We will be collecting the valentines from January 13th through February 2nd.** Thank you!

8.4% of our neighbors are Food insecure. Maybe you are one of them.

Our Food Pantry is now open the second and fourth Thursdays of the month from 4-6pm.

January dates are the 9th and 23rd.



YOUTH MINISTRY



For information on all children and youth activities,
contact Melanie Hartley

childyouthdirector@westgroveumc.org

youth
group

SCHEDULE

SUNDAYS

January 5: 5:30
-7pm

January 12:
5:30-7:00 pm

January 19: 5:30-7:00 pm

January 26: 5:30-7:00 p.m.

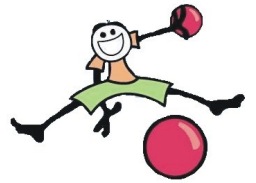
Dodgeball!

Youth Dodgeball
Night

Friday, January 10th,
7:00-9:00 p.m.

Bring your friends!!!

And \$3.00 for pizza!



Youth group is back on January 5!

We have had a great first half of the program year! There are some great events and new things to explore coming our way. We have a great youth group family!

Spring Retreat 2020 March 6-8, 2020

There is still time to sign up!

We are gearing up for a weekend away at Gretna Glen Camp & Retreat Center for fun and time to unwind.

We will be doing a series of sessions on prayer and different ways we can experience prayer, with an emphasis on the Lord's Prayer.

We are looking forward to a great weekend!



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Our Kid Sing Choir did a fabulous job leading us in worship on December 15th!

They also sang at the Christmas Music Celebration on December 8th and were a big hit!

We give thanks to God for the wonderful children of West Grove UMC and for the leadership and care of our director, Joan Leaman.



Children & Youth
Sunday School
Sunday mornings,
9:45-10:45 a.m.

WoRM Unit: Fruits of the Spirit January 5- February 23

Our first unit of 2020 will be focused on the Fruits of the Spirit. The apostle Paul writes in Galatians about the tendencies that lead us away from a full life in Christ and the fruits of the spirit of God that lead us back to that life. We will be learning what those fruits are over eight weeks with lessons like our fruits of the spirit tree and a fruits of the spirit pizza!



All Worship Sunday

January 5: 8:30
& 11:00 Ser-
vices

Children are invited to participate in worship on communion Sunday, so that all can partake at the Lord's table together. We provide worship packets and hands on toys to keep our kids engaged and teach them about worship.



CMO PRESCHOOL



CMO and Preschool News for December

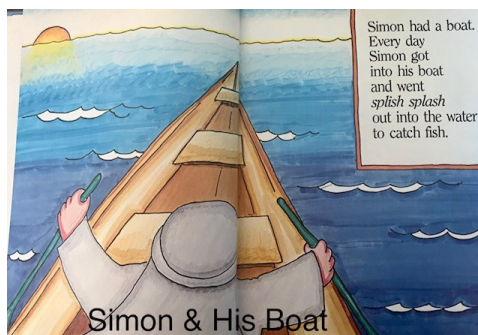
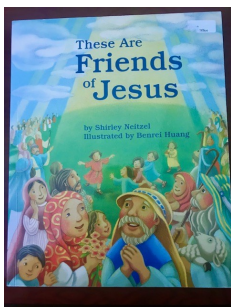
Happy New Year! I hope the new year brings you joy and happiness. We are excited to be back at preschool with all of our little friends. In January, many of the classes will focus on winter and arctic animals. These are always fun themes to come back to after the break. The children will be busy making lots of fun crafts, playing in "snow", and reading lots of books. One of my favorite books is The Mitten, which many of our classes will share this month. In this story, many large and small animals share a little boy's mitten, until a bear sneezes and they all fly out. If you have never read this story, it is a fun one to share with your children. Our month will end with an **Open House**. Current and new families are invited to visit the preschool from 6-7pm on the 29th to learn all about our preschool. **Our registration for 2020-2021 will then open in February.** For more information about our Open House or Registration, please reach out to me at cmo@westgroveumc.org.

Tracy McLaughlin, Director

CMO CHAPEL TIME

with Melanie Hartley and Pastor Monica

Books we will read in January!



NURSERY VOLUNTEERS STILL 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 8:30 am service. If you are interested in helping in the nursery (about once a month), please contact Amy Castaldi at ahass17@hotmail.com or 610-468-4321.



FUN & FITNESS



Retired Active People



Retired Active People (R.A.P.)

January 10, 2020

12:00-3:00 PM

Thank you Paulette Bryan and Janet Gregg for co-leading our December gathering. We enjoyed a special afternoon of great fellowship and good food as we shared a potluck lunch with many delicious desserts to celebrate the Christmas Season. Wonderful Christmas music was provided by the talents of the Providence Brass Quintet plus One, featuring members Eric Perkins, Debbie Schneider and Dick Stuhrke on Trumpet, Rob Hazel on the French Horn, Jake Schneider on Trombone and Frank Metzger on the Tuba. We were entertained with a selection of sacred and secular Christmas pieces and a sing-a-long to favorite Christmas Hymns.



We gather again on Friday, January 10 at noon to welcome the New Year and continuing friendships. Our January co-leaders are Gloria Anderson and Sara Ann Ramberger. Invite your friends and bring your bagged lunch. Desserts and beverages are provided.



Our program will be provided by members, Reed and Joyce Smith. They will provide a presentation of Sweden and other European Cities, and the beautiful churches they have visited. Come and join us for a wonderful afternoon program and fellowship!

We also take this time to thank those who helped compile our new RAP Directory. Cindy Engle was in charge of updating the directory with much help from Kathryn Steele, Esther Culbertson, Linda Peirson, Connie Simcox and Jeanette Stryjewski. And, a huge thank you goes to our Church Administrator, Donna Fackler, for a beautiful cover and for arranging all the information. If you did not receive a new Directory, they will be available at our January meeting. Be sure to pick one up then.

See you in January!

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

Save the Date!

The Juliets, a group of women who just like eating together, will meet at the Creekside Diner, 717 W. Baltimore Pike, Kennett Square on **Saturday, January 11th** at 9:00 a.m. They meet monthly on the 2nd Saturday and enjoy a time of good food and fellowship and laughter! Join us!





STEWARDSHIP



WEST GROVE UMC FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Our church financial condition continues to be stable through the eleven months ended November 30, 2019 although, for the month of November, we incurred a cash shortfall. In November, we received income of \$30,895 and incurred \$32,636 of expenses resulting in an excess of expenses over cash received in the amount of \$1,741. This is a reasonable outcome given that we paid \$13,940 of catch-up payments for conference apportionments and also had low overall spending for the month.



For the year-to-date eleven month period ended November 30, 2019, we received total income of \$355,970 and incurred total expenses of \$349,801 resulting in an excess of cash received over expenses in the amount of \$6,169. Our 2019 apportionments are paid up through July but we remain \$18,018 in arrears as of November 30. We will meet again at the end of December to determine how much additional we can pay by year end.

Marc Simmons, Chair of the Finance Committee



We give thanks for the generosity of this congregation for the Thanksgiving offering of \$1,042. Through your giving, we impact the world in this congregation, community, and the world by opening our hearts to Jesus, growing in our faith, and serving God and God's world.

HUMAN RELATIONS DAY

January 19

Human Relations Day is our day to celebrate everyone's potential to do great things.

- It's our day to empower those living on the margins of society.
- It's our day to invest in at-risk youth.
- It's our day to make a difference together.

We are excited about our first special Sunday in 2019. Please help us by celebrating and giving generously on January 19, 2020!



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

Item	Qty	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
Carpet in Room 14 (FULFILLED)	1	\$500
Concrete Walkway from Pastor's Office Door to Parking Lot	1	\$7,000

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Church Office is closed on Monday, January 1st in celebration of the New Year!

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!



PRAYER ROOM

Need prayer?

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



When shopping for the upcoming holiday season, don't forget



to use AMAZON SMILE. You go to your same login except choose Amazon Smile and support West Grove United Methodist Church. You still get the same deals, but a percentage of your spending is donated by Amazon to your designated non-profit! So, don't forget to log in to **SMILE** before you shop!!

amazon.com



Best Selection of Retailer Brands and Products

Order gift cards for over 750 of the most popular brands, from groceries to coffee to entertainment to gas.

Over 300 brands are available immediately with our eGift card products, and over 100 are reloadable.

LANDS'END

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STEAKS AND SEAFOOD

BED BATH & BEYOND



STARBUCKS®



SCRIP SCRIPTS

Many of us purchase gift cards to use as gifts not just during the holidays, but year round!

Shop With Scrip is an easy way to patronize your favorite merchants and raise money for WGUMC.

For every dollar you spend, merchants will rebate WGUMC from 1% to 20% (and sometimes even more during special promotions). Order forms are in the Narthex. Simply place your order form and a check made payable to WGUMC in Gene Aucott's mailbox in the mailroom. Contact Gene to get on his reminder email list!

Questions? Contact Gene Aucott
gene.aucott@comcast.net / 610-869-7355.

FAMILY PROMISE

January 19-26

Volunteers needed!

WGUMC is hosting Family Promise again this month. 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. We need volunteers for the following:

- **Set-up and break-down** of the guest, volunteer and family/dining Rooms,
- **Meal Preparation** at the church,
- **Evening hosting**-enjoying a meal and fellowship with the families,
- **Overnight hosting** – spend the night at the church
- **Food donations**
- **Transporting cots**-on the final morning to Scott Steele's home for storage,
- **Food donations**

Look for the sign-up sheet in the lobby!



TOOLS

SAVE THE DATE

Put this on your calendar today!

2020 Tools for Ministry

Saturday, March 7, 2020

Eastern
University/Palmer
Campus

1300 Eagle Road, St.



Dear friends in Christ,

Greetings! We are so grateful for you! Thank you for your encouragement and love through your prayers, and

generous missionary support. We pray everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving. Christmas is coming up soon and we hope that everyone has a blessed Christmas. With gratitude we are writing to you, not only for the commitment you have to God's mission but for all the faithful service that you provide for us to continue serving in Morogoro. This newsletter will attempt to briefly outline and describe some of these efforts and events.

This September 2019, we celebrated the 7th graduation. A total of 32 students graduated from Wesley Primary School. This brings our total number of Wesley graduates to 212 since 2013. We believe thousands of lives are being transformed and making a difference as they journey into adulthood. Please praise the Lord with us!

It has been a busy month in Morogoro. We had the privilege of visiting churches, baptizing new believers, welcoming new church members. Our training for pastors continues running and there is a new excitement among our student pastors. What a glorious time rejoicing in the things God has been doing at Morogoro.

Praise the Lord! Kasaka UMC building in the district of Kigoma is almost complete. This building serves as a place of worship on Sundays and preschool classroom on weekdays. The people of Kasaka enjoy this new place of worship. They are immensely touched by your support and generosity. Thank you so much! Please continue praying for us as we continue to share God's love and grace among the people of Kasaka village.

We are so thankful to share God's love and hope with children and youth, showing them, they can find hope in Christ each day. The children enjoyed playing outdoor games, making crafts, listening to Bible stories, learning gospel songs, and



REACHING OUT MINISTRY/ UMC
TANZANIA, MOROGORO UMC
Missionary Newsletter December, 2019

just having fun! Best of all, the children learned that just as Jesus used what the little boy had to offer to feed five

thousand people, God can use whatever we give to Him to help us and the people around us. Pray with us that these children continue to grow and mature in faith. Serve the Lord with gladness; come before his Presence with singing" Psalm 100:2

We are deeply impressed by the joy and light shown by elders who come to receive service at Wesley dispensary. The program is facilitated in two ways. Once a month, elders received free medical checkup, including a massage. And then they receive basic daily needs such as soap, salt, sugar and oil. This month each elder received a box of Jamaa soap. As we strive to make this program efficient in helping those elders with greater need We're thankful for everything God has been doing and give Him the glory.

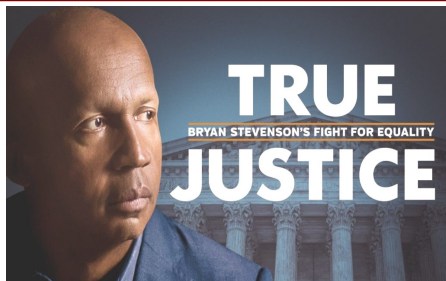
Urgent need: UMC members at Ujiji at looking for a piece of land to build the church. They found a piece of land that costs \$2,500.00, but don't have funds. Any contribution to assist them to get this place would be greatly appreciated. Ujiji is an historical place in East Africa where David Livingston met Stanley. There is an excitement in our service that is very refreshing especially the way these people are committed to serve the Lord. Once again we're wondering about space. Pray for wisdom. Wesley Pre-school graduation

We are filled with joy as we stand together, offering our most sincere congratulations to our pre-school graduating students. The graduation was attended by many in the community, and was very edifying to our local congregation.

Thanks for taking the time to read our newsletter and continue praying for us. May the Lord richly bless you as you seek and serve Him. Merry Christmas to you all! Missionary Umba and Ngoy

A full copy of the newsletter with photos is available in the lobby literature rack or the office can send you a pdf.

EASTERN PA CONFERENCE NEWS



Evelyn Kent Clark appointed to South District Superintendency

Bishop Peggy A. Johnson would like to announce the appointment of the Rev. Evelyn Kent Clark as the Superintendent of the South District of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference effective July 1, 2020. She follows the Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm who will be the new Director of Connectional Ministries at the Conference Office effective July 1, 2020.



Reverend Evelyn Kent Clark is the fourth child of loving parents, Beatrice and Andrew Kent. Her father passed away in 2010, and the family just celebrated her mother's 93rd birthday last month. Rev. Clark grew up in Philadelphia, PA with her three sisters and one brother (one sister passed away in August 2019). She was educated in the parochial school system of Philadelphia and upon graduation from high school, she attended Lincoln University in Oxford, PA with a major in French and a minor in Secondary Education. Rev. Clark responded to the call to ordained ministry after 13 years as an educator in the public school system. She received her Local Pastor's License in 1993 and her Masters of Divinity from Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary, currently known as Palmer Seminary, in 2000. She was ordained as an elder in the United Methodist Church in 2003 and is currently serving as the pastor of two churches in the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference: New Life UMC in Drexel Hill, PA and Trinity Lansdowne UMC (known as The Garden Church) in historic Lansdowne, PA.

Rev. Clark served the General Church as a member of the General Board of Discipleship. She has also served as a member of the Congregational Transformation Team, co-chairperson of Calling Disciples Resource Team, member of the Commission on Equitable Compensation, president of Black United Methodist Preachers, member of Black Methodist for Church Renewal and as the secretary and chairperson of the Committee on Episcopacy. She is currently chairperson of the Order of Elders, co-chairperson of the South District Committee on Ordained Ministry and a member of the Board of Ordained Ministry and its executive committee.

Rev. Clark was a facilitator for the Forum for Female Scholars at the 2006 Gates Millennium Scholars Leadership Conference in Chantilly, Virginia. In that same year, Rev. Clark received the Denman Award for evangelism. In March of 2007 she accepted an invitation to the University of Oxford, in Oxford, England to present and dialogue on the topic "Science and Religion: Is There Common Ground?" She is a member of Biltmore Who's Who, having qualified for inclusion in the 2007-2008 edition of the registry of executives and professionals. In 2017 Rev. Clark had the extreme honor of being a recipient of the Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award by President Barak Obama.

Rev. Clark is married to Rev. Noah Reid III. They have 2 adult children and 1 delightful grand-daughter: Rashawn Clark who is married to Kellee Clark and they have one child, Gabrielle, and one daughter, Amey Reid

True Justice: Seeking Equal Justice for People and Communities of Color
Learn more about this event and about the film True Justice at www.epaumc.org/ministry/prison/truejustice. (Snow Date: February 29) 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, at Cedarville United Methodist Church, 1092 Laurelwood Rd, Pottstown, PA. Cost: \$10. Lunch included. CEUs certification requested. Please register online by February 1, 2020.

Join us in viewing together the compelling HBO documentary film True Justice: Bryan Stevenson's Fight for Equality about the lifesaving, life-changing crusade of Bryan Stevenson. Stevenson is a dedicated public defense attorney and the founder and Executive Director of the groundbreaking Equal Justice Initiative in Montgomery, Alabama. True Justice: Bryan Stevenson's Fight for Equality examines his personal journey, as he labors to bring justice to wrongfully convicted and disadvantaged prison inmates. The film weaves together his own story, those of his clients, and a history of injustice and complicity in our justice system. As Stevenson reveals a troubling narrative of racial inequality still prevalent in this country, he challenges us to seek the truth, confront it and work towards reconciliation. After we view this powerful film, we will hear from a panel of vital, visionary leaders seeking ways to foster racial justice in the criminal justice system. And then we will gather in groups to learn more and determine how we can live out our faith—how we can “do justice and love mercy”—by joining Stevenson's fight in a national campaign that seeks true justice for people and communities of color. Topics for Discussion and Action Planning: • The Legal System and Returning Citizens • The School to Prison Pipeline • Unconscious Racial Bias against People of Color • Communities of Color: Impact of Mass Incarceration Come join this diverse, dynamic gathering of advocates, as we learn to seek True Justice together. This event is co-sponsored by the Eastern PA Conference's Prison Ministries & Restorative Justice Team and Commission on Religion & Race.

JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Church Office is Closed 	2	3	4 Daily Reflections Group
5 Epiphany Sunday All Worship Communion Emergency Aid	6 Knit Wits Making Sense of the Bible	7 Trustees Meeting	8 Full Staff Meeting	9 Pastor Monica is on vacation Food Pantry is open 4-6 pm	10 R.A.P. Youth Dodgeball	11 UMM Breakfast at Perkins J.U.L.I.E.T.S Daily Reflections Group
12 Baptism of the Lord Sunday Worship at Jenner's Pond Disciple Bible Study Youth Group	13 Knit Wits	14	15 Bi-Monthly Staff Meeting Caregivers Group	16 Disciple Bible Class	17	18 Daily Reflections Group
19 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany Memory Bells Youth Group	20 Knit Wits	21 Finance Meeting Ad Council Meet- ing SCCON Meeting	22	23 Food Pantry is open 4-6 pm	24	25 Daily Reflections Group DCOM
FAMILY PROMISE - January 19-26						
26 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany	27 Knit Wits UMM Meeting- Kemblesville	28 Missions Meeting SPRC Meeting	29 CMO Open House	30	31	Feb. 1
FP-Jan. 19-26						



West Grove United Methodist Church
OPEN • GROW • SERVE

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**JANUARY
2020**

~ 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

Jim.mundell@westgroveumc.org

Melanie Hartley—Youth & Children's Ministry Director

Childyouthdirector@westgroveumc.org

Donna Fackler - Church Administrator

Office@westgroveumc.org

Ali Wills- Sexton

sexton@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

Christ Servant Ministers

Janice Bowers, janicesemail2@gmail.com

Cindy Haley, chaley@zoominternet.net

Karen Hruz, khruz@hotmail.com

Peter Mullen, psmullen@petermullen.com

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 Stuhrike - SPRC Interim Chair

Steve May—Tech Team Leader

Dick Stuhrike—Scouting Coordinator

Melanie Hartley - Christian Education

Melanie Hartley - Children's Ministry Team Contact

Susan Paisley, RN - Faith Community Nurse

Janice Bowers - Missions Team Chair

Dick and Caryl Stuhrike - Hospitality Committee Chair

Susan Paisley & Janice Bowers -

Delegates to Annual Conference

Pastor Monica - Committee on Lay Leadership

Open—Lay Leader

Cindy Haley & Fran Miller - U.M.W. Co-Presidents

Susan Paisley - Prayer Ministry Coordinator

Karen Hruz—Emergency Food Pantry Coordinator

Amy Castaldi - Nursery Coordinator

Betty Mundell

—Ad Council Member at Large

Carol Whelan—CMO Advisory Board Chair

Sara Ann Ramberger—R.A.P Coordinator

Janice Bowers - Emergency Assistance Team Chair