



# **West Grove United Methodist Church**

OPEN • GROW • SERVE

The Reverend Monica B. Guepet, Lead Pastor  
300 North Guernsey Road  
West Grove, PA 19390  
[www.westgroveumc.org](http://www.westgroveumc.org)



***Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Sunday, December 22, 2019***

# 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship

## OPEN

### Prelude

### Welcome and Ministry Opportunities

Pastor Monica

*Please fill out the Friendship Folder located on a chair in your row.*

*First-time guest or member, let us know you were here!*

### \*Processional Hymn

"Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

Hymn No. 196

### \*Call to Worship

Jean Kilmartin

One: God of power and might

**Many: Show us your light in the darkness of this world.**

One: God of splendor and wonder

**Many: Open our eyes to see the unexpected and surprising ways you are working in our lives.**

One: God of grace and mercy

**Many: Bring us into the beauty of saving faith through the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ.**

### \*Opening Prayer (Unison)

Jean Kilmartin

**Holy and gracious God.**

**Still our thoughts and quiet our hearts**

**so that we may experience your presence here in this place.**

**Open us up to see how you have worked in the past,  
and in our own lives, in unexpected and glorious ways. Amen.**

### \*Passing of the Peace

Jean Kilmartin

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

**Many: And also with you.**

## GROW

### Moment For All Ages

Eileen Bushnell

### Old Testament Lesson

*Isaiah 7:10-16*

Jean Kilmartin

### \*Gospel Lesson

*Matthew 1:18-25*

Jean Kilmartin

### \*Response to the Lesson

Jean Kilmartin

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

**Many: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

<b>Anthem</b>	“Like A Child, I Wait”	Chancel Choir
<b>Advent Wreath Lighting</b>	Children and Youth The Choir sings first, the congregation joins in after the litany.	
<b>Candle Lighting Song</b>	“The Hope Of Your Coming”	PowerPoint
Children from Age 4 through Grade 4 are dismissed to meet in room #10 for Children’s Worship. Parents, please pick up your children immediately following the worship service in room #10. Children ages birth to 3 are welcome to attend the nursery in room #15 to participate in a story and guided activities.		
<b>Sermon</b>	“Second Chance for the Unexpected”	Janice Bowers

## SERVE

<b>*Hymn of Response</b>	“Rock of Ages ”	Hymn No. 361
<b>Moment of Impact</b>	Christmas Eve Services	Pastor Monica
<b>Offering</b>		
<b>*Offertory Response</b>	“Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow” <b>Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;</b> <b>Praise him, all creatures here below;</b> <b>Praise him above, ye heavenly host;</b> <b>Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.</b>	UMH No. 95
<b>*Offertory Prayer (Unison)</b>	Pastor Jim Gracious and generous God, Giver of all good gifts, bless our tithes and offerings this morning, as small tokens for all the unexpected blessings you have poured down on us. Into our human weakness, you gave the greatest gift of all: Emmanuel, your presence with us, in Jesus the Christ. May our gifts, hymns, prayers, and promises help us recognize the surprising ways in which you draw us daily into your Kingdom. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.	
<b>Gathered Prayer</b>	Pastor Jim	
<b>The Lord’s Prayer (Unison)</b>	Pastor Jim	
<b>*Hymn of Sending Forth</b>	“O Come, All Ye Faithful”	Hymn No. 234, Vv. 1-3
<b>*Benediction</b>	Janice Bowers	
<b>*Choral Benediction</b>	“Christmas Peace”	Chancel Choir
<b>*Postlude</b>		

\* = Rise in body or spirit    **Bold Print = Say in unison**

### **Old Testament Lesson:** *Isaiah 7:10-16*

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

### **Gospel Lesson:** *Matthew 1:18-25*

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall name him Emmanuel,”

which means, “God is with us.” When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

### **Moment of Impact Christmas Eve Services**

We give thanks to God that at West Grove UMC there is a place for you. Our God is a God of second chances. On this Christmas Eve, we invite our friends, our family, our neighbors to come home to West Grove UMC. Take one of the mugs at the door in the lobby to invite a neighbor to come home for Christmas.

Worship at noon, 6, 7:15, 8:30, and 11:00pm.

Come home this Christmas.

# 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.*

Welcome, one and all!

We are glad you are here—a place where faith, hope and love abide!

We encourage you to join us again.

Our Welcome Center, in the lobby, is a place to find information about our church.

Church Office: 610-869-9334—Our Website: [www.westgroveumc.org](http://www.westgroveumc.org)

***Please remember to silence your cell phone when you enter the sanctuary for worship.***



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



**FIRST ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CARD EXCHANGE:** Bring your Christmas cards for your church family now through January 5th. Place your cards into the box with the first initial of the recipients' last name. Pick up your cards at the same time. It is a wonderful way to share the Christmas joy with our church friends!

**FOOD PANTRY:** The pantry will be open on Thursday, December 26th from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:** The church office will close at noon on December 24th. The office will be closed on December 25-26 so our staff may spend time with their families over the holidays. The office will have amended hours of 9am-1pm on December 27, 30, 31.

**FIFTH SUNDAY COIN COLLECTION:** Next Sunday, December 29th, is our 5th Sunday coin collection to benefit the Ronald McDonald House. Bring your noisy gift to help others!

**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, beginning Sunday, February 2, in which Pastor Monica will present information about plans for the future of United Methodism that are to be debated to the General Conference in May. 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.

## ***God's Faithfulness ~ Your Stewardship***

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

## **Report from December 15, 2019**

*Combined Worship Attendance: 169*

*General Offering : \$ 4,369*

*Building Maintenance Fund: \$410*

*Emergency Groceries YTD: 371 bags*

*Emergency Aid provided YTD: \$ 3,970.11*

**THIS WEEK: December 22 through December 29, 2019**

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

**Fourth Sunday in Advent**

**Sunday:** 8:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship w/PraiseWorks Band  
9:45 a.m. Sunday School and Faith Learning Academy  
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship w/ Chancel Choir  
12:00 p.m. Counters (#2)  
3:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m. GS Troop #41403 (#8,10)  
**5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Christmas Jubilee Youth Group (#8, 10)**

**Monday:** 9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Knit Wits (#1)  
6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Memory Bells Rehearsal (Sanc.)

**CHRISTMAS EVE**

**Tuesday:** 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m. **Wiggly Giggly Service**  
6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. **Family service with a pick-up Christmas Pageant and music by our Memory Bells Handbell Choir**  
7:15 p.m.-8:15 p.m. **Christmas Eve Service at Jenner's Pond in the Allison Theater**  
8:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. **Contemporary Service with music by our PraiseWorks Band**  
11:00 p.m.-12:00 p.m. **Traditional Service with music by our Chancel Choir and the Sacrament of Holy Communion**

**Wednesday: Merry Christmas—The church office is closed.**

**Thursday: The Church Office is closed**  
4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. **The Food Pantry (Kitchen and Lobby)**  
5:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. GS Troop #49900 (#12)  
5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m. GS Troop #4251 (#8, 10))

**Friday: Office Hours are 9 am-1 pm**

**Saturday** 10:00 a.m.—11:30 a.m. Daily Reflections (#8 and 10)

**First Sunday After Christmas**

**Fifth Sunday Coin Collection—Ronald McDonald House**

**Sunday:** 8:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship w/PraiseWorks Band  
9:45 a.m. Sunday School and Faith Learning Academy  
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship w/ Chancel Choir  
12:00 p.m. Counters (#2)

# PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

## NEED PRAYER?

**To be added to the Prayer Chain:** Weekdays, contact Donna Fackler at office@westgroveumc.org or 610-869-9334. Evenings and weekends, email prayer@westgroveumc.org. **Prayer requests will remain in the bulletin for four Sundays.** Please contact Donna, if you need the request extended. *If you do not want your name listed in the bulletin, please state that in your request.*

### Community Prayer Focus for December: Advent Activities and Services Mission Prayer Focus for December: UMCOR

Darlene Alleger (Guepet)  
Glenn Allen (Mundell)  
Helen Carlin  
Joann Coates  
Dee Crawford  
Linda Eyster (Combs)  
Michael Fackler (Fackler)  
Bill Fili, Jr. (Bratton)  
Family of Bill Fili (Bratton)  
Mary Finn (Mullen)  
The Gastaldi Family (Strewjewski)  
Stephen Gaughan (Fackler)  
John Gorman (McGinley)  
Mike Haley  
Ellen Hayes  
Scott Helsel (Stewart)  
Family of Bob Herb (Shiplet)  
Linda Herb (Shiplet)  
Muff Hurst  
Family of Sandy Kates (B. Smith)  
Peg Kent  
Gordon Maule (Phillips)



Joel & Heaven McCree  
(Combs)  
Peggy Mowrer  
Betty Mundell  
Tim Mullen  
Lola Nadolny (Hruz)  
Michael Raineri  
Family of Vernon Ramberger  
Wayne Reisler (Shiplet)  
Rick Renzulli (McGinley)  
Joan Saller  
Doug & Joan Smead (Wolff)  
Charlie Smith (B. Smith)  
Reed & Joyce Smith  
Rick Spencer (Kim Smith)  
Flora Spiegel (Strewjewski)  
Maureen Stickel (Fackler)  
Jeannie Sullivan  
Mary Tharp (RAP)  
Tommy Lake (Simmons)  
Bruce Varney (Shiplet)  
Mary Weidman (Miller)  
Gisela Winkler (Mullen)



Anderson S. Camp  
Navy, Norfolk, VA (Shaub)  
Daniel Engberg—Iraq (Hruz)  
Nathaniel Howard,  
North Carolina  
Brian Kubo—Washington (Mullen)  
LTC Eric Maxwell,  
Fayetteville, NC  
(The Rambergers)  
Chris Weidman—Japan (Miller)  
Dalton Wolfe-U.S. Marine Corps  
Drew Zumpino—South Korea  
(Beauchamp)

### SERVANTS IN MINISTRY ON SUNDAY MORNING

#### This Sunday, December 22

**Ushers—8:30** Tim & Eileen Bushnell  
**Greeters—8:30** Margaret Rubincan  
**Ushers—11:00** Ed Tolmie and Fran Miller  
**Greeters—11:00** TBD  
**Acolyte 8:30/11** Hannah McCummings/Jacob Rinehimer  
**Nursery 8:30/9:45/11** C. Bruno / E. Mullen / J. Leaman  
**C. Worship—8:30/11** Melanie Hartley  
**Lay Reader—8:30** Joan Leaman  
**Liturgist—11:00** Jean Kilmartin  
**Moment All Ages** Eileen Bushnell  
**Roamers** Fran Miller  
**Hospitality 8:30** Nancy Duvall  
**Hospitality 11:00** Linda Peirson  
**Counters** Valerie Kapp-Benner / Alison Aucott  
**Sound Booth** K. Schneider, M. Duvall & Others

#### Next Sunday, December 29

Fred Sullivan  
TBD  
Daisy Ingiosi  
TBD  
Brady Castaldi / Alisabeth Guepet  
K. Hendrickson/K. Hruz/P. Fulton  
TBD / TBD  
TBD  
Janis Schrader  
Joan Leaman  
Heather McCummings  
John Gambill  
Linda Peirson & Don Hurst  
Dave Talley and Janice Bowers  
K. Schneider, M. Duvall & Others

# 8:30 Contemporary Worship Service

## OPEN

**Opening Song** “Lord, I Lift Your Name On High” PraiseWorks Band

**Welcome and Ministry Opportunities** Pastor Monica  
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First-time guest or member, let us know you were here.*

**\*Celebration Set** “Overwhelmed” PraiseWorks Band  
“What Child Is This”

**\*Passing of the Peace** PraiseWorks Band  
One: The peace of Christ be with you.  
**Many: And also with you.**

## GROW

**Moment For All Ages** Eileen Bushnell

**Old Testament Lesson** *Isaiah 7:10-16* Joan Leaman

**\*Gospel Lesson** *Matthew 1:18-25* Joan Leaman

**Advent Wreath Lighting** Children and Youth  
PraiseWorks sings first, the congregation joins in after the litany.

**Candle Lighting Song** “The Hope Of Your Coming” PraiseWorks Band  
Children from Age 4 through Grade 4 are dismissed to meet in room #10 for Children’s Worship. Parents, please pick up your children immediately following the worship service in room #10. Children ages birth to 3 are welcome to attend the nursery in room #15 to participate in a story and guided activities.

**Sermon** “Second Chance for the Unexpected” Janice Bowers

## SERVE

**Moment of Impact** Christmas Eve Services Pastor Monica

**Offering** “Mary Did You Know?” PraiseWorks Band

**Offertory Prayer (Unison, p. 3)** Pastor Jim

**Gathered Prayer** Pastor Jim

**The Lord’s Prayer** Pastor Jim

**\*Closing Song** “My Soul Magnifies The Lord” PraiseWorks Band

**\*Benediction** Janice Bowers

**\*Postlude**

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