

West Grove United Methodist Church

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March 2020



"Pray like this: Our Father who is in heaven, uphold the holiness of your name." Matthew 6:9

In the baptismal service, the clergyperson gets to ask a number of questions. Many important questions of faith and declarations of belief, particularly. However, the question that always gets the response with the most emotion is this one: "What name is given this child (youth/adult)?" Parents who are responding have the opportunity to share the names they have chosen for heir child and add to the name: Christian. Youths and Adults who declare their chosen name consciously accept the call of Christ on their lives, through prevenient grace, and proclaim Christian. People will determine whether to use a full name or a partial name, a new name, a first name, a nickname in baptism, they claim the name of Christian and they reclaim their own name as well. A name hold hopes and aspirations as well. If you look into the meanings of your name, you might find that you were a gift from God (Dorothy) or strong (Ethan), generous (Corlee) or kind (Cedric). Do you know what your name means? My name means (Monica) Advisor (Beth) consecrated by God.

We have also named God. From the beginning of time, we have called God names based on how we have known God to be. When we have known God to our Redeemer, we have prayed to our Savior. When we sought healing and wholeness, we have known God as the Great Physician. This is true throughout the scriptures. Our biblical ancestors have taught us that God is known as the Holy Spirit, Father, Son. God is known as a tender shepherd caring for his sheep as well as the Great I AM that I AM.

As we enter this Lenten journey together, I invite you into a time of focused prayer. We will be focusing on the Lord's prayer in worship as we dive deep into its wisdom. I invite to open yourself to the different ways in which God has been known to God's people through the scriptures. Let God guide you in prayer:

Loving God, We have called you by different names across time and place. In our holy scriptures, we have story after story of your people naming you as they have come to know you more intimately. You have been honored as Hagar called you El Roi, the God who sees me, David called you the Good Shepherd, and John called you Logos, the Word made flesh. Others, too knew you as a shield and protector, father, a mother hen, the provider of healing. Today, we come to you, Holy One, knowing that YOU ARE THAT YOU ARE. Let our Lenten journey renew and refocus our relationship with you. May the names we use for you remind us of your many attributes and characteristics, gifts and graces towards us.

In the name of our Savior and Redeemer, Jesus the Christ, we pray, Amen.

In God's Love, Paston Monice



March Worship at West Grove UMC

Join us as we worship together by opening our hearts to Jesus, growing in God's way, and serving God's world.



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

Sermon Series: Prayers of Jesus: The Lord's Prayer

Sunday, March 1, 2020 Communion Sunday & Emergency Aid All Worship Sunday First Sunday in Lent

*Food Pantry Day is the first Sunday

Sermon: "Ascribe to the Lord" **Scripture:** Romans 10:9-13

Matthew 6:7-9

Melanie Hartley, preaching

The names of God reveal to us who God is and all of those names reflect his Holiness. Because God is holy, all things are made holy. As we enter the season of Lent, we explore the prayer that Jesus taught us to pray, starting with the foundation: God is holy.

Sunday, March 8, 2020 Second Sunday in Lent

Sermon: "Are We There, Yet?"

Scripture: Matthew 6:9, John 3:1-17

The promise of God's kingdom is the stubborn hope that we hold onto in times of challenge. We are called to work for the kingdom. When will God's kingdom be fully known? Are we there, yet?

11:00 a.m. Jenner's Pond Worship in Alison Theater with Rev. Dr. David Frame

Sunday, March 15, 2020 Third Sunday in Lent

Sermon: "Heaven's Reflection"

Scripture: Matthew 6:10, Romans 5: 1-11

Janice Bowers, preaching **Memory Bells at 11:00 a.m.**

God has a desire for earth to heaven goodness, where earth reflects the glory and grandeur as well as the way of God's heaven.

Sunday, March 22, 2020 Fourth Sunday in Lent

Sermon: "Satisfied"

Scripture: Matthew 6:11, 1 Corinthians 9:6-12

We are called to consume and want more and more through advertising and culture. This is not the way of God, and it is not sustainable. We pray for our daily bread and satiation. Let us embrace the prayer and life God gives us.

Sunday, March 29, 2020 Fifth Sunday in Lent

Sermon: "Stay in Your Lane"

Scripture: *Matthew 6: 12, Colossians 3:1-10*

Driving, you know which lane to be in. As we seek forgiveness, we often bring others into our confessions, shifting the blame to them. Forgive us OUR trespasses.



Jenner's Pond Residents:
Join us for worship is on March 8th at 11 am
in the Alison Theater.

Led by Dr. 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 March 1, 2020



MARCH COFFEE FELLOWSHIP—Hosted by: The Trustees Team

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

Lent is a Season of Stubborn Hope by Kate Bowler

We feel our smallness when we consider the universe, unutterably vast, dark and scattered. Whole swathes of space are empty, while elsewhere galaxies drift through the void for eons of time before colliding with each other. Some stars go nova and incinerate the planets orbiting them, expending themselves in an explosion so powerful that our naked eyes can see it millions of light-years away. Cosmic dust coalesces and new stars are born, while black holes swallow light itself. Here on our tiny terrestrial orb, circling a minor sun in a low-rent neighborhood on the edge of the Milky Way, our telescopes watch as the cosmos accelerates away from us, growing ever colder and more distant. We are but a speck. I imagine that for you, too, this last week has been an especially dark one, rightsizing us once again in the face of such tragedy. And I don't know if this is happening in your life, too, but so many people I care about are struggling with things they don't deserve. It has been awful. And, in a flash, their tragedy shines on a rent in the fabric of space and time that separates us from each other. In our pain, we are all the same. And it is necessary and obvious to say that anything that could happen to them could happen to any of us. We find that we must confront our fragility, and signs of our mortality are everywhere. As John Donne writes:

Death is in an old man's door, he appears and tells him so, and death is at a young man's back, and says nothing; age is a sickness, and youth is an ambush; and we need so many physicians as may make up a watch, and spy every inconvenience. There is scarce anything that hath not killed somebody; a hair, a feather hath done it; nay, that which is our best antidote against it hath done it; the best cordial hath been deadly poison.

And so, we search for sense and fairness in the rubble of shattered bodies that we see on television or in our own homes. We assume that because our pain is so personal, it must be personally meant, that there must be some inherent significance to the suffering, some lesson the universe is trying to teach us. But, no. Too often there is neither meaning nor order nor justice in that chunk of cancerous tissue, that patch of ice, or piece of faulty wiring. Everything can just... happen.

Lent is the right time to sit with these darker truths. This is the time to reflect on our limitations and to remind ourselves that none of us is immune to the universe. We are all one errant organ, limb or joint away from losing that sense of freedom in our own bodies, and even the fittest of us inhabits a faulty body, designed to wear out and perish. From dust we were made. Look, this is grim stuff. I get it. But this is the necessary antidote to the poison of our culture's myth of perfectibility. We become too afraid to say the obvious: that things are not always getting better. And this fact should make us kinder to each other. As temporary creatures made of the same perishable material, we should see in each other fellow pilgrims headed in the same direction, worthy of our concern, people with whom we should be more patient, slower to anger, quicker to help. How different are we really when we consider our lives and struggles and weaknesses? Lent forces us to confront our disoriented mortality. And if you are already there, if Lent is where you live, this is a season of stubborn hope. I promise. It is the season where God sets a new horizon. A drama of ultimate importance is coming to a climax; there is a different kind of rent in the fabric of the universe, and light will flash through the darkness to illuminate what everything was all about and what everything will come to mean. The light is coming. Our bodies are temporary, and so will be our suffering.

BOOKS & RESOURCES MENTIONED IN SERMONS IN FEBRUARY

February 2:

Williams, Rowan. Meeting God in Paul, 2013.

Grateful: The Transformative Power of Giving Thanks (HarperOne, 2018), xi.

February 9:

https://www.npr.org/2020/02/07/803423754/pope-francis-turned-a-vatican-palazzo-into-palace-of-the-poor-for-homeless-people

February 16:

https://www.pa.gov/guides/state-symbols/

Rossiter, Phyllis. "I'm from Missouri--you'll have to show me." Rural Missouri, Volume 42, Number 3 March 1989, 16

Craddock, Fred <u>As One Without Authority</u>. Chalice Press: St. Louis, Missouri; 2001. 153

https://www.christiantoday.com/article/mya.angelou.christian.faith.civil.rights.leader.passes.away.86/37748.htm

https://parade.com/985225/jessicasager/random-acts-of-kindness-week-ideas-2020/

February 23:

Phelps-Roper, Megan. <u>Unfollow: Loving and Leaving Westboro Baptist Church</u>. Farrar, Straus and Giroux: October 8, 2019.

February 26:

https://www.barna.com/research/silent-solo-americans-pray/

Lamott, Anne. <u>Plan B: Thoughts of Faith</u>. 2006 Bondi, Roberta. <u>A Place to Pray: Reflections on the Lord's Prayer</u> Abingdon Press, 1998.

Holy Week at West Grove UMC



Palm Sunday, April 5th

8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Worship Services
11:00 a.m. Service features the Cantata "A Time For Alleluia"

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

Maundy Thursday, April 9th

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.





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 11th

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!





Easter Sunday, April 12th

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.

Nursery and Children's Worship provided

at all services.



EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

It's Easter Flower time! We are now accepting orders for Easter flowers in memory, honor or in celebration of a loved one, or for you and your family.

The last date to order flowers is Palm Sunday, April 5th. 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	\$6.00		\$	_
Daffodils	\$6.00		\$	_
Easter Lilies	\$9.50		\$	TOTAL:
Contact the chu	rch office with que	ish to offer these flo		recognized in the Easter Sunday bulleting
In Honor of				
In Celebration	ı of			
Your Name: _			То	tal Amount \$
1				







EASTER "EGG"STRAVAGANZA Sunday, April 5th 3:00 P.M. TO 5:00 P.M.

Children are invited to bring their Easter baskets and take part in the Easter Eggstravaganza! 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 school age children.

The event is "rain or shine"!

For additional information or directions, please contact Melanie Hartley at childyouthdirector@westgroveumc.org or 610-869-9334



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 March 10th 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

We continue to meet at Luther House Building No.1 for a weekly bible study on Wednesdays from 2:00-3:00 pm. **During the season of Lent we will "examine five essential spiritual practices rooted in Jesus' own Walk with God"** as presented by Pastor and Author, Adam Hamilton, in his new book, "The Walk." We will explore the practices of worship, study, serving, giving, and sharing our faith. If you are interested in joining us or would like more information, please contact Cindy Haley, 484-702-7071 or chaley@zoominternet.net.

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



March dates are the 12th and 26th.

"Journey to Jesus, Journey to Love"

Are you saddened by the hate, violence, and disregard for life in our world?

Now, imagine a world where love and respect for everyone reigned. Imagine a world where everyone actually obeyed Jesus' one commandment: love as you wish to be loved and forgive as



you wish to be forgiven.

The only way to combat evil and hatred in our world is for us to better fulfill the example and commandment that Jesus gave to us: love. LOVE, PURE AND SIMPLE.

Come – take the Journey to Jesus, Journey to Love beginning Sunday, March 1st through April 5th at 9:45-10:45 and learn how to better connect your heart with the heart of Jesus. Sign-up sheets are in the church lobby on the bulletin board.

Carol McGinley, Leader



WHEN: Thursday MARCH 5th

WHERE: Willowdale Chapel at 675 Unionville Rd. in Kennett Square, Pa.

WHAT TIME: 9am-12:30pm. **PLEASE RSVP** to Kate Daneker (kdaneker@ksqroots.com) or

The Bridges Out of Poverty model is a comprehensive approach to understanding the dynamics that cause and maintain poverty from the individual to the system level. Bridges Out of Poverty uses concrete tools, strategies, and concepts to prevent, reduce, and alleviate poverty and build a healthy, sustainable community. Bridges Out of Poverty brings people from ALL sectors and economic classes together to improve job retention rates, build resources, improve outcomes, and support those who are moving out of poverty.

484-678-3889

It's all about collective impact.

Leah M. Reynolds,

M.S.P.L., Executive Director Kennett Area Community Service (K.A.C.S.), Cell: 412-915-5308

"Overcoming poverty is not a gesture of charity. It is the protection of a fundamental human right, the right to dignity and a decent life."

(Nelson Mandela, Former President of South Africa)

SPRING CLEANING DAY—ALL CHURCH Saturday, April 25 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

Save the date as we plan an All Church Spring Cleaning! Many hands make light work and we can all work together to continue our church's reputation as a clean, welcoming and inviting place for the community.

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

A sign up sheet will be posted in the church lobby. It will list the specific tasks-including tools and supplies necessary to complete the job. Most supplies are available at the church.

Church Work And The Red To Red

Questions: Please contact Gene Aucott at gene.aucott@comcast.net or 610-869-7355

YOUTH FUNDRAISER FOR THE SUMMER MISSION TRIP TO BOSTON!



T-Shirts and Tote Bags are emblazoned with the West Grove UMC logo and come in two color options. Priced at just **\$15 a piece**, buy several to give as gifts!

Sale begins on February 16th after each worship service through March 29th. The youth will have a table in the lobby and will be happy

to sell you a T-Shirt and/or a Tote Bag! Contact Melanie with any questions. **Childyouth**

director@westgroveumc.org





United Methodist Men's dinner

Monday, March 23rd at 6:45 pm at West Grove UMC

Would you like to help serve?

Contact Nancy Duvall at Nancy.duvall@comcast.net or 609-675-5244

Thank you!

SCOUTING MINISTRY

{The Methodist Church (Methodist Episcopal and then, United Methodist Church) celebrates 100 years of ministry with BSA.

Our connection is supported through the United Methodist Men who oversee all scouting programs.

UNITED METHODIST MEN SUPPORT
THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
United Methodist Men support the Boy
Scouts of America

On Feb. 18, 2020, the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) filed bankruptcy. This Chapter 11 bankruptcy filing opens the door to meet with the goals of the BSA: care for those who have been harmed during their time in the Boy Scouts and to grow the mission for youth in the future.

This re-organization will occur at the national level. It does not impact local meetings or programs for youth. Councils are independent financial organizations. The change will not impact council or district events.

Our support for the Boy Scouts of America has not changed. We need youth who can make moral and ethical decisions over their lifetimes. We need a place for youth to learn citizenship, group and personal skills. Careers and hobbies that help fulfill the lives of youth are taught here.

If one child is harmed, that is too many. And from the local group to the highest level, the safety of children continues to be paramount. Youth Protection training has been a focus since the late 1980s for BSA. This predates the first congressional appropriations to the CDC for youth violence prevention (1992). AS reported by the BSA, approximately 90% of the pending and asserted claims against the BSA relate to abuse that occurred more than 30 years ago.

If you would like to know more specifics, please use the links below.

https://youtu.be/rUQTVzeBhXw Resources: <u>www.scouting.org/youth-safety</u> and

Pastor Monica

www.BSArestructuring.org

If these resources don't answer your questions,

If these resources don't answer your questions, please feel free to reach out to BSA through Member Care at 972-580-2489 or MyScouting@Scouting.org.

We give thanks to God for the commitment of the BSA to care for those who have been abused as well as the local organizations as they continue in mission and ministry. In God's Love,



Scout Sunday, which in the Methodist Church is always the second Sunday in February, is the day we not only celebrate the founding of the Boy Scouts but honor all of our scouts. At last count, West Grove United Methodist Church has 11 scouting units that meet in our church. These 11 are not just 11 more outside groups that meet here one night a week. They, in fact, are an outreach of this church. As such, we bear a responsibility to these boys and girls for the ongoing viability of their respective scout units. Is scouting worth our support? Is scouting

still relevant? I attempted to answer both these questions in the affirmative this past Scout Sunday, February 9th.

The future of scouting in America, however, has since been called into question. On February 18th, the Boy Scouts of America filed for bankruptcy under Chapter 11. Chapter 11 refers to the Chapter of the US bankruptcy Code that specifies a process for organizations to continue to operate while addressing certain financial challenges. The BSA took this action to address increased financial pressure from litigation involving past abuse in scouting. The BSA felt that this action would best ensure that all victims of past abuse receive equitable compensation while still being able to carry out its mission to serve our youth. This action was taken at the national level and does not impact scouting at the local level. I truly believe that scouting is safer now than ever before. Approximately 90% of pending abuse claims relate to abuse that occurred more than 30 years ago. The BSA has long been proactive in its attempts to eliminate abuse within its ranks; from mandatory youth protection training and background checks for all volunteers and staff, to policies that prohibit one-on-one interaction between youth and adults and require that any suspected abuse be reported to law enforcement. Moreover, all of these multi-layered safeguards are part of an ongoing effort of the BSA to be part of the broader solution to child abuse.

No one knows how this current situation will eventually play out, how long it will take, and what the ultimate impact on scouting as we know it will be. For now, it's business as usual not only here at Troop 12, but with scout troops and units everywhere. Since the bankruptcy announcement, the United Methodist Men issued a communique which Pastor Monica has shared in its entirety in this newsletter. The communique included the following statement. "Our support for the Boy Scouts of America has not changed. We need youth who can make moral and ethical decisions over their lifetimes. We need a place for youth to learn citizenship, group and personal skills." It is my hope and prayer that with your help and support the ideals of scouting never cease to resonate and that scouting continues to thrive not only here at West Grove UMC, but all across this great country of ours.

Dick Stuhrke - Scout Coordinator

YOUTH MINISTRY



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

childyouthdirector@westgroveumc.org

SUNDAYS

March 1: 5:30 –7pm

March 8: Return from Youth Retreat.

No Youth Group

March 15: 5:30-7:00 pm

March 22: 5:30-7:00 p.m.

March 29: 5:30-7:00 p.m.

"It takes courage to say yes to rest and play in a culture where exhaustion is seen as a status symbol." Brene Brown

Spring Retreat 2020 March 6-8, 2020

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 Praver.



Final sign ups are due by March 1. Contact Melanie Hartley for information and questions.

Youth Dodgeball **Night** Friday, March 13th, 7:00-9:00 p.m.



Bring your friends!!! And \$3.00 for pizza!

Tee's & Totes Fundraiser **Buy Yours today!**

The youth are selling t-shirts and tote bags featuring our church!

Look for our table in the lobby each Sunday after services through March 29th.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



VBS SAVE THE DATE

July 20-24, 2020

VBS in only five months away and we are busy planning all

the fun the children will have learning about the Armour of God with "Knights of North Castle"!

If you are interested in volunteering, please be sure to let Melanie Hartley know!

Registration opens on March 23rd.

https://2020.cokesburyvbs.com/west groveumc2020 Check our website at

www.westgroveumc.org



The children have been hard at work practicing for their big day! On Sunday, March 8th, the children's "KidsSing" choir will be singing "A Smile Is a Flower" at the 8:30 and 11 am services. Be sure to join us for this always entertaining time with our children!

What's happening on Sundays:

For information or questions, contact Melanie Hartley at childyouthdirector@westgroveumc.org

All Worship Sunday

March 1, 8:30 & 11:00 services

Children remain in worship on communion Sundays so that all can partake at the Lord's Table together. We provide worship packets and hands on toys to keep our kids engaged.

Look for the All Worship bags on the blue cart in the lobby!



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

WoRM Unit: The Beatitudes March 1- April 5

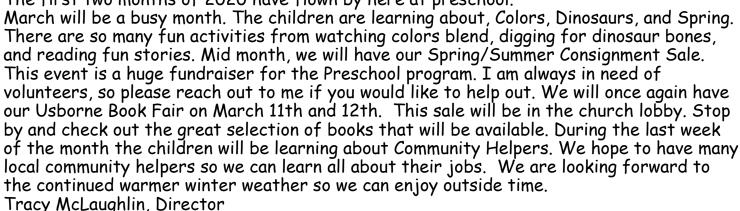
Our next Sunday school unit will focus on the first portion of Jesus' Sermon on the



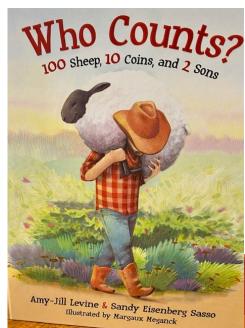
Mount. The beatitudes or the blessings, are proverb-like proclamations that tell of what is valued and good in the Kingdom of God. Children will explore what these blessings mean and what they tell us about God and the kingdom he wants us to build.

CNO PRESCHOOL

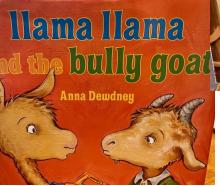
Happy March! It is hard to believe that it is already March. The first two months of 2020 have flown by here at preschool.



CMO CHAPEL TIME with Melanie Hartley and Pastor Monica Books we will read in March!



The month of March is all about Jesus' teachings and parables. We'll learn about sheep, coins and one cranky goat!





CMO Preschool's Children's Clothing and Equipment Consignment Sale

Friday, March 20th, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, March 21st, 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

West Grove United
Methodist Church will be
holding a Children's
Clothing, Toy and
Equipment Consignment
Sale. This is a great
chance to buy quality used

children's items that you need at good prices. There will be a large selection of children's clothes, shoes, coats, toys, books, baby items and equipment. Shopping hours are Friday, March 20th from 9:00am-4:00pm and Saturday,



March 21st from 9:00am-11:30am. Come on Friday for the best selection. On Saturday, many items will be half price. This sale benefits the early childhood and scholarship programs at the

Children's Morning Out and Preschool Program of WGUMC. If you have any questions, you can e-

ail: tracy.mclaughlin@westgroveumc.org or call the CMO office at 610-806-5393

CONSIGN: Thursday, 19th-4:30-6:30 p.m.

SHOP: Friday, March 20th - 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. and

Saturday, March 21st - 9:00 am - 11:30 a.m.

(Items half price on Saturday, except if marked with a <u>red</u> dot)

<u>Profit Sharing:</u> Consignor will receive two-thirds of the total sales of their items. Children's Morning Out program will receive the remaining one-third.

<u>Items to be consigned</u>: Spring/Summer children's clothing sizes newborn to size 16, toys and baby equipment. We are asking that you be selective and do not bring stained or

worn out clothing. All baby equipment must be clean and in good working order. Children's shoes must be new or nearly new. Operating items and games must have all parts and be in working condition.

<u>Please contact the church office for a full</u> <u>consignment instruction packet.</u>

ALL ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE

<u>Volunteers are needed!</u> Consignors are asked to sign up to volunteer at least two hours during the sale. Setting up and cleaning up are always the jobs that need extra hands. Please see sign up sheets and sign up when you pick up your packet.



**Consignors who are signed up to volunteer at least two hours will have the opportunity to shop on Thursday evening once all items have been distributed.



FUN & FITNESS





Retired Active People (R.A.P.) March 13, 2020 12:00-3:00 PM

Thank you, Paulette Bryan and Sara Ann Ramberger for co-leading our February gathering.

Our program was presented by Jeanette Stryjewski assisted



by her model, Queen for the Day, Pat Heist. Jeanette entertained us with a discussion of five of the most popular Egyptian queens and stories of how they were

subjects of legends and gossip. Thank you for a very interesting program.

RAP's next gathering will be Friday, March 13, 2020 at noon. Ray McKay and Sara Ann Ramberger are the coleaders and our program will be provided by Matt Genereux from the Longwood Funeral Home.



Bring your lunch and enjoy a time of fellowship with one another. Delicious desserts and beverages are provided. Everyone is welcome! Don't forget to Invite your friends and enjoy an afternoon of good friends and fellowship.

United Methodist Men Monday, March 23rd 6:45 p.m.



The meeting for March will be held at West Grove UMC! Dinner (\$11.00) will be

followed by program. All men of the church are invited. If you have questions or would like additional information, please contact Dick Price.

UMM Breakfast Meeting

Saturday, March 14th at 7:30 a.m.

Join the United
Methodist Men
for breakfast at
Perkins in
Avondale on the
second Saturday
of each month. Eight men
enjoyed conversation and some
inspiration from the Gospel of
John in January. You are always
invited to join them!

J.U.L.I.E.T. Women's Breakfast

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**, **March 14th** 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

For the month of January, 2020 we incurred a cash shortfall. We received income of \$25,119 and incurred \$28,047 of expenses resulting in an excess of expenses over cash received in the amount of \$2,928.

The January shortfall is less than the budgeted monthly shortfall; however, the budget accounts for expenses spread evenly through the year that we have not vet incurred. Also, offering for January was less than

the amount budgeted. A special note – our apportionment expenses are currently being paid in full each month.



Marc Simmons, Chair of the Finance Committee

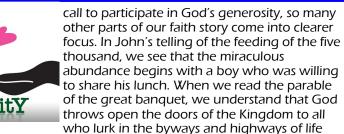
A Gracious Invitation to Generosity by Ann M. Michel (excerpts)

The whole testimony of scripture is a witness to the generosity of God. God's acts in creating the world, calling forth a people, forging a covenant, sending a savior, and empowering the church are all acts of divine generosity. But it doesn't take a biblical

scholar to know that our God is a giving God because people experience God's generosity. I sense that this feeling of awe and gratitude is a natural religious impulse for many people. The simple foundational belief that God has given to us and in gratitude we give back to God and others is at the core of a lead to scarcity, it is the means by which God brings forth the sound theology of giving.

I once read about a children's stewardship program that had all the toddlers wearing placards that said, "I'm a steward." Somehow, I had a hard time imagining that a preschooler could really understand what it means to be a steward. But if a toddler has every tried to cram a soggy Cheerio into your mouth, you know that even babies are wired for generosity. And that's because we are created in the image of our generous God. Greed and sin can distort that image. But at our core, generosity is part of our spiritual inheritance, which is why generosity makes us feel so good.

Once we understand the generous nature of God and our



just as the banquet host extends generosity to the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame.

Generosity is God's antidote to the greed and hoarding that abundant life that Jesus promises. Generosity is no less than the means by which God ushers in the Kingdom. And the most exciting thing of all is that God invites us to partner in this miracle of redemption by inviting us to be generous as God is generous. It's more than a fundraising plan for the church, it is an invitation to take part in God's transformation of the world.

I don't want to diminish our responsibility as stewards nor detract from the challenge of tithing. These are part of the generous life to which God calls us. But how much more inspiring it is when we see these things as part of the larger call to partner, through our generosity, in God's work in the world.



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

young / ons

The mission of YoungMoms is to inspire & equip young moms to build thriving futures for themselves & their families.

Dear friends of YoungMoms,

I'm writing to share some exciting but bittersweet news: as of the end of March, 2020, I will be stepping down as Executive Director of YoungMoms. My husband, Randy, has accepted a job in Atlanta, GA, and we are looking forward to starting a new adventure together. I have loved serving at YoungMoms these past 6 years, and am thrilled to have played a part in helping so many teen moms build thriving futures for themselves and their families. I am so grateful for the Board, staff, volunteers, funders, churches, and community partners who have wholeheartedly invested in this critical work, and I will miss my relationships with each of you.

I am leaving YoungMoms in the capable hands of our dedicated Board of Directors and incredibly talented staff. Molly Henry, one of the founders of the organization, longtime Board president, and current head of development/communications, will act as Interim Director as the Board conducts an Executive Director search. YoungMoms is in a place of tremendous stability and sustainability, and I am confident the organization will move forward seamlessly. I am honored to have been the leader of this incredible organization and will watch with excitement and anticipation as it continues to create lasting change in the lives of teen moms and their families.

With gratitude, Linda



Please note we have cancelled our Saturday, April 4th packaging event due to a lack of financially contributing churches.

Prayerfully, we will be able to hold this event at a time in the future.



Hello dear pastor West Grove United Methodist Church!

First of all I want to thank you for your prayers and

for the financial support of my ministry! God does a lot through people like you! Thank you! This year was very busy and full of different events. I help a few different churches where they have new pastors so time by time I go there and visit them. Also there are a few churches where different missionaries serve so we also have meetings together with them once a month.

One young family got baptized this year and I took part in their baptism study. A group of young people from my church and I had a chance to serve in

Mykulyntsi town. We helped them renewing their church building. Regularly we help widows of our town with food, house stuff etc. And at the same time we share the Good News with them.

There were kids camps in our town and surrounding villages in July and August. Differents age groups kids had a chance to relax, make new friends and hear something about Jesus. On the last day of the camp kids parents were invited and they also could hear

about Jesus.

The Les Family in the

Ukraine

In August we had a baptism in Berezhany town, a few people gave their lives to Jesus.In September we made

a special service for widows where they could hear some encouraging words, share their sorrows and had a good dinner together. Starting frrom September we had Thanksgiving services in different towns and villages of Ternopil region. These were evangelization services in the centers of different towns/villages.

Our choir took a big part in it. Also the priests from Catholic churches were invited. In

Slobidka village one man became a deacon and we had a special meeting with him and his family. Once a month I, as a regional pastor, have meetings with pastors of different regions where we pray and share our experiences. Every Sunday I go to Seretets village church for an evening service. Every Wednesday we keep sharing The Good News giving christian newspapers to our town habitants. Thank you once again for your help! May God richly bless you all and your families! Sincerely, Pastor Sergiy

THE BLACK COLLEGE FUND

SUPPORTS UNITED METHODISM'S HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES THAT CREATE VIBRANT SPIRITUAL ENVIRONMENTS THAT ENCOURAGE PRIDE AND SELF-ESTEEM.

Between 1866 and 1882, following the Civil War, the former Methodist Episcopal Church organized the Freedmen's Aid Society to help educate black people newly freed from slavery. Between 1866 and 1882, the society established more than 70 schools in the U.S. South and Southwest.

In 1972, The United Methodist Church established the Black College Fund to provide a constant reliable way to support United Methodist-related historically Black colleges. Today we support more historically Black colleges and universities than any other religious denomination.



Continuing a Rich Tradition

Through United Methodist Church giving, we're supporting the important work of 11 schools committed to academic excellence based on the Christian perspective of community service and social responsibility—where students are interacting with academic staffs that serve as strong cultural and spiritual mentors.

The Black College Fund is raising up the leaders who are impacting lives and shaping communities.

Your Giving is Developing Tomorrow's Leaders

Your giving to the Black College Fund enables schools like Rust College, in Holly Springs, Mississippi, and Clark Atlanta University to continue to develop students who will impact the world God loves.

"HBCUs continue to play an important part of educating our nation's youth and producing future doctors, lawyers, business executives, scientists and philanthropists." –Tom Joyner

Make a Difference Today

Through the Black College Fund, we're working together to ensure that the institutions that have equipped our nation's finest leaders continue for years to come.

Learn more about these schools:

Bennett College Greensboro, NC www.bennett.edu

Bethune-Cookman University Daytona Beach, FL

www.bethune.cookman.edu

Claflin University Orangeburg, SC www.claflin.edu

Clark Atlanta University Atlanta, GA www.cau.edu Dillard University New Orleans, LA www.dillard.edu

Huston-Tillotson University Austin, TX

www.htu.edu

Meharry Medical College Nashville, TN

Paine College Augusta, GA www.paine.edu

www.mmc.edu

Philander Smith College

Little Rock, AR www.philander.edu

Rust College Holly Springs, MS www.rustcollege.edu

Wiley College Marshall, TX www.wileyc.edu

EASTERN PA CONFERENCE NEWS

UMCOR receives grant to create The John Wesley Fund for U.S. Disaster Response

A new fund makes UMCOR training possible and encourages support.

Seeking to support the lifechanging work of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), an anonymous bene-

factor has pledged over the next ten years the income from a \$5 million asset to support the training of UMCOR's volunteers and its continued response to disasters in the United States. In providing this gift, the donors hope others will be encouraged to support UMCOR in its efforts to respond quickly and thoroughly to future disasters.

Known for being "early in, last out," UMCOR is the global humanitarian aid organization of The United Methodist Church. Since its founding, UMCOR, through its United States Disaster Response (USDR) program, has supported its partners dealing with many natural and other disasters that have impacted the nation and its territories.

In 2019, UMCOR's U.S. Disaster Response program and its network of instructors trained 4,042 volunteers to respond to disasters in the U.S. and designated \$22,613,587.87 for U.S. disaster response. UMCOR's Early Response Team (ERT) training system provides responders with the information and skills necessary to support disaster survivors as soon as communities allow teams into impacted areas. UMCOR will partner with United Methodist Volunteers in Mission (UMVIM) for future disaster response trainings, the first of which will be in July 2020.

Background-checked, badged and motivated to be a caring, listening Christian presence, ERT members prevent further damage by tarping roofs, stabilizing structures and clearing debris. ERTs know how to prepare a structure for recovery teams and to provide assurance to survivors that God's people care about their lives and homes.

"The Bible teaches us to 'Love Thy Neighbor'. The United Methodist Committee on Relief has done this by offering assistance when disaster strikes," a representative of the benefactor said. "Using their network of associates trained in emergency response, UMCOR is able to work with churches and community leaders on the local level to help those directly impacted by disaster. They help



our neighbors no matter who they are and regardless of background or belief. Through the establishment of this fund, named for and honoring Methodism's founder John Wesley, we believe UMCOR can continue to provide training for volunteers called to help in times of need."

"This gift is a testament to the 80 years of UMCOR's work and the countless United Methodists who

have stepped up to volunteer when their communities have faced a disaster," said Roland Fernandes, executive director of UMCOR. "We are thankful for this gift and the confidence these friends have in UMCOR's work."

"UMCOR responds to disasters in a holistic manner that recognizes the ways survivors and volunteers can be creative partners in recovery," said Cathy Earl, UMCOR director of U.S. Disaster Response. "The creation of The John Wesley Fund for U.S. Disaster Response will enable us to prepare even more volunteers to interact with vulnerable survivors with hope and healing in difficult circumstances."

To contribute to The John Wesley Fund for U.S. Disaster Response or to support UMCOR in other ways, contact Tom Farley, director of development, at tfarley@umcmission.org or 404-832-7782.

About the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)

Founded in 1940, the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is the global humanitarian aid and development agency of The United Methodist Church. UMCOR is working in more than 80 countries worldwide, including the United States and its territories. Our mission, grounded in the teachings of Jesus, is to alleviate human suffering—whether caused by war, conflict or natural disaster— with open hearts and minds to all people. UMCOR responds to natural or civil disasters that are interruptions of such magnitude that they overwhelm a community's ability to recover on its own. UMCOR works through programs that address hunger, poverty, sustainable agriculture, international and domestic emergencies, refugee and immigrant concerns, global health issues, and transitional development. Learn more

at <u>www.UMCOR.org</u>, <u>www.Facebook.com/UMCOR</u> and www.twitter.com/UMC_UMCOR.



March 2020



	03/01/2020	03/08/2020	03/15/2020	03/22/2020	03/29/2020	
Ushers—8:30	The Aucotts	Fred Sullivan	John Gambill	The Bushnells	TBD	
Greeters—8:30	TBD	TBD	John McGinley	Margaret Rubincan	TBD	
Ushers—11:00	Peirson/Minnick	C. Robinson	D. Ingiosi	Ed Tolmie	Fran Miller	
Greeters—11:00	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	
Communion - 8:30 Communion -11:00	Fred Sullivan, Melanie Hartley, Carol McGinley, Carol Barrett, Brian Barrett Janice Bowers, Melanie Hartley, Doris Taylor, David Frame					
Acolyte - 8:30/11:00	Anna Castaldi/Jacob Rinehimer	Lizzy Bohnsack/ Abby Herman	TBD/Owen Jones	Hannah McCum- mings/Clarissa Robinson	Charlie Bohnsack/ Alisabeth Guepet	
Nursery 8:30/9:45/11	A. Castaldi/K. Smith/J. Leaman	M. Rubincan/C. Bratton/P. Fulton	C. Bruno/E. Mullen/K. Rinehimer	K. Hendrickson/K. Hruz/ Open	A. Castaldi/K. Smith/J. Leaman	
C. Worship—8:30/11	All Worship	TBD/TBD	TBD/TBD	TBD/TBD	TBD/TBD	
Lay Reader—8:30	Judy Gambill	Mark Simonds	Fred Sullivan	Karen Hruz	David Bohnsack	
Liturgist—11:00	Matt Rinehimer	Sue Curtis	Chris Curtiss	Susan Paisley	Becky Rinehimer	
Moment All Ages	Melanie Hartley	Pastor Monica	Joan Leaman	Eileen Bushnell	Pastor Monica	
Roamers	Fran Miller	Heather McCummings	Maryann Covington	Joan Leaman	Fran Miller	
Hospitality 8:30/11	L. Shiplet, K. Smith & K. Underwood / The Stuhrkes	Reed & Joyce Smith/ Nancy Duvall	The Covingtons/ S. Steele	Priscilla Barkman/ L. Pierson	J. Gambill/ L. Peirson & D. Hurst	
Counters	G. Anderson & D. Shaub	V. Kapp-Benner & J. Kilmartin	The Stuhrkes	D. Talley & J. Bowers	G. Anderson & D. Shaub	
Soundbooth-8:30/11	K. Schneider/M. Duvall /& Various	K. Schneider/M. Duvall /& Various	K. Schneider/M. Duvall /& Various	K. Schneider/M. Duvall /& Various	K. Schneider/M. Duvall /& Various	

■3/01 Edel Mullen

3/02 Kay Warfel

3/03 Don Hurst

3/06 Alyssa Wolff

3/07 Donna Shaub

■ 3/07 Jade Barrett

3/08 Kaya Krohn

■3/08 Linda Peirson

3/09 Jay Schoff

3/10 Linda Shiplet

3/10 Mike Wiwel

3/11 Colton McCummings

-3/13 Duane Bruno

3/13 Dick Stuhrke





3/14 Sonny Dunn

3/14 Mike Dawson

3/21 Maira Tena

3/23 Pam Howard

3/23 Caryl Sturke

3/26 Betsy Smith

3/27 Carolyn Bratton

3/27 Shannon Murphy

MARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
First Sunday in Lent	Knit Wits	Trustees Meeting	Ministerium	Disciple Bible Class	Youth Retreat to Gretna Glen			
All Worship	Making Sense of	Cardio-Drumming	Luther House					
Communion Emergency Aid	the Bible Tech Team Meets		Bible Study Bi-Monthly Staff			Daily Reflections Group		
Disciple Bible Study	Toon roun mode		Meeting			Tools for Ministry		
						100is for Willistry		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14		
Second Sunday in	Knit Wits	Cardio-Drumming	CMO Book Fair	CMO Book Fair	R.A.P.	Daily Reflections		
Lent Youth Return from		Prayer Gathering			Youth Dodgeball	Group		
Retreat			Full Staff Meeting	Food Pantry is		UMM Breakfast at Perkins		
Worship at				open 4-6 pm		J.U.L.I.E.T.S		
Jenner's Pond			Luther House	Disciple Bible Class		Eagle Court of Honor		
Service with Dr. David Frame			Bible Study					
15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
Third Sunday in Lent	Knit Wits	Finance Meeting	Bi-Monthly Staff Consignment		CMO Consignment Sale			
Memory Bells		Ad Council Meeting	Meeting	Sale Set-Up				
Coffee Fellowship		Cardio-Drumming	Luther House	Disciple Bible		DCOM		
Disciple Bible Study			Bible Study	Class		Daily Reflections Group		
Youth Group						·		
22	0.2	24	05	26	0.7	28		
22	23		25	26	27			
Fourth Sunday in Lent	Knit Wits	Cardio-Drumming	Luthor House	Food Pantry is open 4-6 pm		Daily Reflections Group		
Disciple Bible Study	UMM Dinner at WGUMC		Luther House Bible Study	Disciple Bible				
Youth Group	WGOIVIC			Class				
29	30	31	April 1	April 2	April 3	April 4		
	F	AMILY PROMIS	E March 29 th	rough April 5				
Fifth Sunday in Lent						Muff Hurst		
Disciple Bible Study	Knit Wits	Cardio-Drumming	Bi-Monthly Staff Meeting	Disciple Bible Class		Memorial Service		
Youth Group			Module			Daily Reflections Group		
						G. 50p		



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 Office@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 Tracy.mclaughlin@westgroveumc.org

> Maira Tena - Nursery Attendant Ali Wills- Sexton sexton@westgroveumc.org

Christ Servant Ministers

Janice Bowers, janicesemail2@gmail.com Cindy Haley, chaley@zoominternet.net Karen Hruz, <u>khruz@hotmail.com</u> Peter Mullen, <u>psmullen@petermullen.com</u>

Board and Committee Leadership

Tom Hoover - 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 Melanie Hartley - Children's Ministry Team Contact Susan Paisley, RN - Faith Community Nurse TBA - Missions Team Chair Dick and Caryl Stuhrke - 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, Dick Price -Ad Council Member at Large Carol Whelan—CMO Advisory Board Chair

Sara Ann Ramberger—R.A.P Coordinator

TBA - Emergency Assistance Team Chair