



# The Wesleyan Star

**West Grove  
United Methodist Church**

300 North Guernsey Road  
West Grove, Pa. 19390  
Phone: 610-869-9334

Email: [office@westgroveumc.org](mailto:office@westgroveumc.org)

Website: [www.westgroveumc.org](http://www.westgroveumc.org)



## August 2021



“Fear God, do what he tells you.” Ecclesiastes 12:13 (The Msg)

I worked and worshipped with a young man in a church many years ago. He was great in his enthusiasm for our faith and personal relationships with Christ. One of the most overused words in his vocabulary was “awesome!” He said it all the time, and I mean, all the time. He had a great enthusiasm for life. “That’s awesome!” Was a common expression when he ate something he liked, had a fun time, or when he evaluated an event. The word awesome has an important, deep meaning for us

as Christians. Life and creation are awe-inspiring; it is all a miracle, and we celebrate together in worship. In its own way, the word awesome is really a word to be reserved for when we express our perception that something or someone is of a sacred, miraculous nature.

When we have an engaging experience with God, better words than the word “fear” that the Bible names, would at times be better said as reverence. We might also use the word awe; yet awe has been so overused by marketing people to get us to buy something, to join in and experience an event or a service being sold to us, that it can feel watered down, too common to express our relationship with God. We are, as Christians, always looking for ways to share our incredible relationship with God with other people; the relationship wasn’t meant to be kept to ourselves and becomes stronger, more joyful in sharing; we need fellowship with each other.

Today there are people who will say they don’t believe in God or that there is God. As Christians, we know that the danger of such an approach to life is that as human beings, when God is not at the center, we are likely to make something else our god. Maybe it’s our possessions, or status, our job, or another person; perhaps what takes the center of our lives is our feelings or desires. The Bible has an expectation that we will believe in God, and makes it clear, whether we choose to set God in our lives or not, we always have a relationship with Him. The question is what will the relationship be? How will we describe it as we share our faith with others?

We want to see God in truth as the One who is majestic, sacred, and holy, the One with extensive wisdom, who is wondrous and awe inspiring. We cannot “whittle him down” to the size of our small minds and hearts. Nor can we confine God only within boundaries we are comfortable with. When we do, we cut ourselves off from life, creation, and the joy and purpose of our lives, and the possibilities before us and our loved ones. So, when the Bible expresses fear of God, we pray we are not scared as much as we are experiencing the awe and reverence we want to have, and God wants us to have in our relationship with God and our approach to the lives we are living.

May God bless you all with experiences that are truly full of awe, reverence, that are sacred and holy. I look forward to sharing fellowship together. – Tim

(From ideas in A Long Obedience, by Eugene Peterson)



# July 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.



9:30 a.m Fully Open Worship. Live Streaming on You Tube.

**Sunday, August 1, 2021**

**Communion Sunday**

**Tenth Sunday After Pentecost**

**Scripture:** *Romans 8:1-8, 31-39*

**Sermon:** "Healing: Sacrifices Motivated By God's Love"

**Sunday, August 8, 2021**

**Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost**

**Scripture:** *John 6:15, 41-51*

**Sermon Subject: Faith Lifts Us Above Conflict.**

We want to rise about the narrowness that results from disagreements and from seeking our own way and desires.

**Sunday, August 15, 2021**

**Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost**

**Scripture:** *Ephesians 3:14-21*

**Sermon Subject: Visions of Abundance from God.**

We are extremely blessed; at no time in history have so many people enjoyed so many resources at their disposal. We seek the first, most important priority for our lives.

**Sunday, August 22, 2021**

**Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost**

**Baptism of "Nora" Elanor Hendrickson and Backpack Blessing Sunday**

**Scripture:** *Genesis 17:10-14 and/or Luke 2:22-40*

**Sermon Subject: Baptism's Essential Promise** – We remember our baptisms and what they mean, as we make a recommitment to our faith and discipleship in supporting Nora in her discipleship.

**Sunday, August 29, 2021**

**Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost**

**Fifth Sunday Coin Collection**

**The Rev. Jim Mundell, Preaching**

**Scripture:** *Psalms 145:1-9*

**Sermon:** "How Great Is Our God"



**Jenner's Pond Residents:**

Join us for worship on

**August 8th at 11 am**

On your closed circuit TV  
and in-person  
in Alison Theater

Led by Pastor Jim

Join Us  
IN Worship

**The Church is FULLY OPEN!**

We have been blessed with more than 50 attendees each week who are delighted to have worship together in-person. Our on-line viewership remains substantial as well. In September, we will resume our Sunday School classes, Children's Worship time and providing Nursery care. Masks are not required and are worn by choice. We try to observe social distancing and the church continues to be disinfected before the service and throughout the week. Regrettably, we cannot offer coffee fellowship yet, but you are encouraged to fellowship after the worship service.



## Cottage Fellowships are Back!!

### “Get to Know Pastor Tim and Julie”

It has been a little over a year since Pastor Tim took over as our pastor. When Pastor Tim and his wife Julie came to us, the country was in the midst of a pandemic of epic proportions. Normally when a new pastor takes over, the church holds a series of Cottage Fellowships in which the congregation meets in small groups on an informal basis with the pastor and his wife to simply get to know each other.

Typically these Cottage Fellowships are held in the homes of members who act as host. Nothing about this past year has been normal. Due to the restrictions imposed by the pandemic, we were unable as a church to offer a proper welcome to Pastor Tim and Julie. Holding anything in the way of a Cottage Fellowship was simply out of the question. Although Pastor Tim has made great strides in getting to know us in spite of these challenges, we, the Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC), feel that it would be beneficial to all concerned, if we were to go ahead and host a series of Cottage Fellowships in the latter part of August. We are slowly returning back to some kind of normal with attendance in Worship starting to increase, plans for having Sunday school return in September, the much anticipated rummage sale on the calendar for October, CMO up and running, and here this past week a very successful live VBS. These long overdue Cottage Fellowships could serve the dual purpose to not only allow us to get better acquainted with Pastor Tim and Julie but serve as an opportunity for us all to get re-acquainted, as hopefully we can finally put this pandemic behind us and come back this Fall in full swing.

Tentative dates and times for these Cottage Fellowships are as follows:

Tuesday Afternoon (2 to 4pm) ..... August 17<sup>th</sup>

Thursday Evening (7 to 9pm) ..... August 19<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday Evening (7 to 9pm) ..... August 24<sup>th</sup>

Due to lingering concerns about the pandemic, all of these Cottage Fellowships will be held at the church with all precautions in place. Already several people have come forward to volunteer as hosts. There will be sign-up sheets for each of these sessions. Our intent is to keep the number of participants in each session small to perhaps no more than 10 families to allow for an open and free flow of thoughts and ideas, questions and insights, joys and concerns, hopes and aspirations, and as Pastor Tim likes to say “our stories”. More specifics will be forthcoming via a formal invitation, constant contact, Sunday morning’s ministry opportunities and the bulletin. In the meantime please look over these dates and mark your calendars accordingly. You can sign up for one of the sessions through Sign-Up Genius ([Click Here](#)). If by chance our response is such that these dates can’t accommodate everyone additional sessions can be arranged.

Dick Stuhrke  
Chair of SPRC

## Blessing of the Backpacks



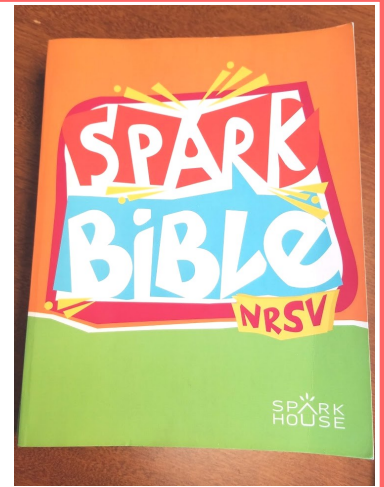
**Join us on Sunday August 22nd** as we send our children and

youth to school with backpacks full of blessings. We pray blessings and peace upon on students and teachers as they begin school on August 26th. Bring your backpacks to receive a blessing and tag. This year's blessings come from Illustrated Children's Ministry who have created our images for our Lord's Prayer curriculum. Invite your children, grandchildren, neighbors, and friends to join us.

## Third Grader Bible Sunday

We will celebrate Third Grader Bible on a Sunday in September (look for

date), where we will present each of our third graders with Bibles. To ensure we do not miss anyone, please call Donna Fackler in the church office (610-869-9334) or email her at [office!westgroveumc.org](mailto:office!westgroveumc.org). Please give the full spelling of your child's name for inscription in the Bible. We can't wait to share God's word with them!



## School Supplies Donation List

There are many children whose parents cannot afford the basic supplies they require to start school. The following list are the general supplies the children need from a list compiled from the

various local school districts. If you are able to donate some of the these items, please drop them off at the church (black mission bin in the lobby) by August 22nd. This will allow us to make supply boxes for each child.

Thank you for your generosity!

### K-6 supplies lists – general

- Colored pencils – 12 count
- Thick black chisel tip EXPO dry erase markers
- Fine tipped EXPO dry erase markers
- Composition books (wide ruled)
- Lined paper
- Glue sticks



- Pencils (sharpened #2) (box of 12 or 24)
- Graph paper
- 1 or 1.5" 3-ring binder
- Post-it notes, 3x3"
- Markers 8-10 count
- Folders with pockets and holes plastic (red, blue, yellow, green)
- Highlighters
- Spiral notebooks
- Crayola crayons (24 count)
- Scissors
- Large pink erasers
- Pencil box (plastic)
- Pencil pouches (soft, zippered)
- Index cards 3x5
- Backpack
- Headphones/earbuds
- Pencil top erasers
- Reusable Water bottle



## Youth Summer Service Week

### WGUMC YOUTH

Summer Service Week



Thank you all so much for your support and generosity that made youth service week such a success. We had a great week together serving at Mission Central, Otterbein UMC, and here at West Grove UMC. The kids worked so hard and accomplished so much. We also had a great week of laughter, bonding and learning. We have been reminded that each of us is born and brings a light into the world; the world would be a different place if each of us were not here. We can

bring so much love, peace, compassion and joy when we remember that God is always with us.





# YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

COMING  
SOON

## COMING THIS FALL: YOUTH GROUP FOR HIGH SCHOOL & MIDDLE SCHOOL

We are looking forward to a great year back at youth group! And this year, we will be **adding a middle school youth group program!**

**All students in grades 6-8 are invited to attend for games, snacks and discussion time.** We are so excited to welcome new students to the youth group family and build new friendships with one another.

***Plans for middle school youth group are in the works, so stay tuned for the details!***

**High school youth group kick off is Sunday, September 12.**

If you have any questions or would like detailed information, please contact Melanie Hartley



## Vacation Bible School

We had a fantastic week at The North Castle during VBS week! We learned so many stories that remind us that God is always with us and that we can armor up with his truth, peace, love and faith whenever we need it. The kids also brought in over 60 pairs of pajamas for Methodist Services Main Campus and The Community New Garment Association, sharing warmth, coziness and compassion to



children and adults. There are so many people who helped make VBS possible, from the group shepherds, activity leaders, registration helpers and those who donated supplies for science experiments. Thank you all so much for your support and generosity!



## Sunday school kick off: September 12

Sunday school is coming back in person this September! Leaders and volunteers are working diligently to create a safe and healthy place for our children to gather, as well as coming up with new stories and lessons to teach!

***Stay tuned for details about Sunday school and other family programs!***



# West Grove UMC

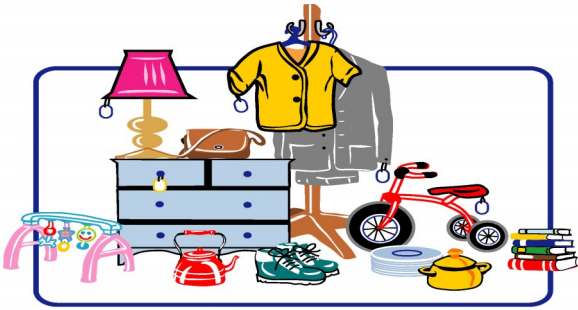
## “Fix It!” List

Do you have a talent for repairing things? Below are volunteer opportunities for keeping our church and grounds in top shape.

No need to supply the materials, just your generous labor.

Contact Gene Aucott at 610-869-7355 or  
[gene.aucott@comcast.net](mailto:gene.aucott@comcast.net) if interested.

1. Clean grout in Narthhex
2. Patch and paint conference room ceiling
3. Paint exterior door frames where needed
4. Power wash vinyl siding where needed
5. Patch and paint columns at main entrance
6. Seal cracks in parking lot
7. Replace broken electrical outlet covers in kitchen
8. Patch ceiling outside of the music room
9.
10.



# Fall Rummage Sale

## SAVE-THE-DATE

**Friday, October 1, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.**

**Saturday, October 2, 9 a.m.– 12 p.m.**

**Start saving all the household goods, furniture, clothing and other treasures to donate.**

**Donations accepted at the church beginning Sunday, September 26**



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

**Do you feel like you don't know what's going on at the church? Well, if you are not receiving the weekly Constant Contact emails from the church, you very well may be missing out on a lot!** We publish a Weekly West Grove Wednesday edition and a Sunday Sneak-a-Peek about the sermon on Sunday and other information, including a link to the week's bulletin. If you are not receiving these two emails, perhaps you elected to unsubscribe or they are being treated as spam and are going directly to trash. **A lot of information is shared in these two weekly emails and we often publish special editions of timely information you may be interested in.** This monthly newsletter is also shared via CC. If you are missing out and would like to be on the list, **email Donna Fackler, our Church Administrator, at [office@westgroveumc.org](mailto:office@westgroveumc.org) or call the office at 610-869-9334.** I will be happy to add you to the list!





## Donations Requested

From conversations I've had recently, it seems everyone is looking forward to the Rummage Sale in the fall, and there is one item I've become aware of that our church needs: It would be extremely helpful for us to purchase some new plastic tables. The old ones were made to last, but are too heavy and are getting old with sharp edges, and they have become difficult to use. We'd like to replace them and we ask for your help. We did not include them on the Trustees wish list, yet. They cost between \$120 and \$145. We are asking for your help and we look forward to the sale going well and more easily with them in place. Contributions can be made in addition to your weekly offering. Let us know by providing a note for your offering's use. Thanks for everyone's help. We are looking forward to being in fellowship together, and sharing our treasures at the sale.



## Open Grow Serve



### OUR MONTHLY SHOUT OUTS!

- Summer is a slower time. A time for rest, relaxation and renewal. The church has been somewhat quieter, but there are still lots of folks who are busy bees around here. Here are a few people you might not have seen around the church, but work quietly behind the scenes. If you would like a "shout out" about someone/something you saw that should be recognized, email the office at [office@westgroveumc.org](mailto:office@westgroveumc.org).
- ◇ Karen Hruz who calls many of our congregants to see how they are doing.
  - ◇ Ralph Curtiss who came over with his truck to clean up debris around the church.
  - ◇ Pastor Tim is STILL always out there planting flowers, weeding, and watering to keep the church beautiful.
  - ◇ Griffin who always brings a smile to faces who visit the office.
  - ◇ Our Sunday Morning Servants, especially Nancy Duvall Gene Aucott and Kim O'Neill our faithful greeters, and Michal Duvall, Steve May, Nate Robinson and Will, Christian, and Maggie Stuhrke our wonderful Sound booth and Tech geniuses.
  - ◇ Heather McCummings, Dick and Caryl Stuhrke, and Valerie Kapp-Benner who have been counting the offerings for weeks on end. Reach out if you want to help!
  - ◇ Joan Leaman for her tireless efforts to keep the Food Pantry stocked and the community fed.
  - ◇ Our Prayer Ministry team who pray from home each evening, not just generally, but specifically as well.
  - ◇ Fran Miller who has been updating all of our clearances to be in compliance with Safe Sanctuary rules. If you haven't yet updated your Child Abuse and Criminal Background checks, Fran will be happy to help.
  - ◇ Paulette Bryan and others who made meals for the youth during their Mission Week.



# EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE

The United Methodist Church

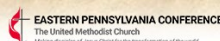
*Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.*

**Conference to offer two Laity Academies in 2021: August 6-7 online; Oct. 1-2 onsite**

## 2021 EPA UMC Laity Academy



A new command I give you: Love one another.  
As I have loved you, so you must love one another.  
John 13:34



**Registration for the August Zoom courses is now open. Register now.**

It's been over a year of shutdowns and lockdowns; learning to live differently in our homes; attending meetings, classes and worship services on Zoom; and ordering many more consumer goods online. We depended on essential workers to serve and take care of us, while some of us learned how to take better care of each other. "Handle With Care" became not only a cautionary box label but a way of being human together.

In John 13:34, Jesus commanded us to not only care but also love one another. "As I have loved you," he said, "so you must love one another." The pandemic has reminded us that life is precious. How we live our lives is precious. And how we care for one another and Love one another is precious.

**Acknowledging that we are not fully back to normal, the annual conference Laity Academy will host two learning events in 2021. The theme is "Handle with Care Love."**

**The first academy is August 6-7, Friday evening and all-day Saturday, using Zoom video-conferencing. The second will be on October 1-**

**2, when in-person classes will be hosted at several churches across the conference.**

There will be one Basic course for lay ministry servants; three Caring courses (one in Spanish); four Leadership courses; and three Speaking courses (two in Spanish). These courses will teach about preaching, Bible study, pastoral care, church communications, emotional intelligence and other topics.

Registration for the August Zoom courses is now open. **Register now.**

Registration for the October in-person courses will open by mid-August.

Watch a heart-lifting Laity Academy 2021 video by Sabrina Daluisio.

## Hearing Assistive Devices

Do you sometimes miss what's been said in worship?

Do you want to make sure you get every word?

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

Head back to sound booth in the sanctuary and ask one of sound booth technicians about our hearing assistive devices. They can go right over your ear and amplify the sounds for you.

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

## BIRTHDAYS IN AUGUST

Ainsley DiRamio	04
Audrey Dunn	04
Jeannie Sullivan	06
Alexandra Weingarten	06
Casey Bruno	08
Parker Featherston	08
Laura Minnick	08
David Frame	09
Sharon Nesbitt	11
Larry Smith	11
Eileen Bushnell	12
Kristin Reisinger	12
Doyle Stuhcke	12
Alex Dilworth	14
Leigh-Ann Krohn	14
Lianne Covington	15
Tyler Farr	15



Mason Hendrickson	15
Brian Wolff	15
Reed Smith	16
Josh Stevenson	16
Charlotte Adams	17
Justin Bratton	17
Tim Bushnell	18
Jessica Wiwel	20
Natalie Timm	21
Carter Capuano	22
Paulette Bryan	23
Les Lafferty	24
Bob Castaldi	27
Jennifer Smith	28
Tim Owens	29
Sara Ann Ramberger	30
Liam Smith	31

Your church family wishes all of you a very happy birthday  
and a year filled with happiness and blessings!!



### What's going on at West Grove UMC?

There is much going on at church! Adult Sunday School class after worship each Sunday, Food pantry, Mighty Writers food and essentials distributions, a planned Rummage Sale in the fall, Sunday School Kick-off for our kiddos. Your church calendar is reviewed daily and updated with the latest events and meetings. Please refer to our website to get information, updates, calendar events, etc.

[www.westgroveumc.org](http://www.westgroveumc.org)





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**AUGUST**

**2021**

*~ 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 Timothy Carl Anderman, Lead Pastor**

[pastor@westgroveumc.org](mailto: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](mailto:Jim.mundell@westgroveumc.org)

Melanie Hartley—Youth & Children's Ministry Director

[Childyouthdirector@westgroveumc.org](mailto:Childyouthdirector@westgroveumc.org)

Donna Fackler - Church Administrator

[Office@westgroveumc.org](mailto:Office@westgroveumc.org)

Betsy Smith - Traditional Music Director  
Contemporary Music Interim Director  
Keyboardist

[Betsy.smith@westgroveumc.org](mailto:Betsy.smith@westgroveumc.org)

Sandy Deckard—Handbell Choir Director

[dvasan5@comcast.net](mailto:dvasan5@comcast.net)

Heather Smalley—Children's Morning Out Director  
[cmo@westgroveumc.org](mailto:cmo@westgroveumc.org)

Maira Tena - Nursery Attendant

Maira Tena—Sexton

[sexton@westgroveumc.org](mailto:sexton@westgroveumc.org)

**Christ Servant Ministers**

Cindy Haley, [chaley@zoominternet.net](mailto:chaley@zoominternet.net)

Karen Hruz, [khruz@hotmail.com](mailto:khruz@hotmail.com)

Peter Mullen, [psmullen@petermullen.com](mailto:psmullen@petermullen.com)

**Board and Committee Leadership**

Tom Hoover - Administrative Council Chair

Gene Aucott - Trustee Chair

TBA - Finance Chair

Peter Mullen - Treasurer

Heather McCummings - Financial Secretary

Dick Stuhrke - SPRC 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

Valerie Kapp-Benner and Jean Kilmartin - Missions Co-Chairs

Dick and Caryl Stuhrke - Hospitality Committee Chair

Susan Paisley - Delegate to Annual Conference

Hannah McCummings—Youth Delegate to AC

Pastor Tim - Committee on Lay Leadership

Karen Hruz and Cindy Haley—Co-Lay Leader

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

Susan Paisley - Prayer Ministry Coordinator

Joan Leaman—Emergency Food Pantry Coordinator

Amy Castaldi - Nursery Coordinator

Betty Mundell, Dick Price

—Ad Council Member at Large

Cindy Hoover—CMO Advisory Board Chair

Sara Ann Ramberger—R.A.P Coordinator

TBA - Emergency Assistance Team Chair