



# The Wesleyan Star

**West Grove  
United Methodist Church**

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## MARCH 2022



“Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, *we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.*” (1 Corinthians 15:12-14, 19-20)

For the Apostle Paul, resurrection was not just some theory or nice idea, and it was far more than what came out of the power of positive thinking. It was a great reality about his everyday life, and God’s vision of where his life was leading in very real ways. He looked for God to bring forth new life and opportunities to share faith in fellowship every day. For he had met resurrected Jesus on the road to Damascus and from there his life was transformed. Life never stopped being transformed and sanctified as he responded every day to the new opportunities that God and life presented to him. Salvation has a way of expanding our hearts and minds. The reality of resurrection was found even in the moments when one would normally feel trapped, limited, attacked, and imprisoned in some way. With God’s help and presence, he seized upon them as opportunities to live more deeply in the empowerment God provides. He did so by coming to terms even more clearly in the truth, even when the truth exposed his faults and sins.

God turned a crucifixion into resurrection. There is evidence of God working resurrection all around us every day. The God who created such



wonders and miracles of DNA and Stars in heaven, the precious nature of a child, or the wisdom of a person with years of deep life experiences, would not leave this creation alone. The promises of Christ are real. Resurrection is not just for special people like Jesus, he made the promise and offers the Covenant to all who will receive it. Creation reveals the character of God in many ways, “consider the lilies of the field, or the sparrow in the air.” At times our view of God and the personal

possibilities for our lives may seem so distant, so theoretical and hard to see, yet because of the incredible nature of who and what we witness around us, we still trust and believe. And we strive to offer our lives as a witness for others.

This year, as we begin the season of Lent, we are blessed to have the witness of the Resurrection to empower us and give us hope in very real ways, as we move to claim the fullness of life that God has promised. Lent is a time to be even more intentional and truthful about how we are living in our faith, to be sure we are focused on God, and not distracted. We intentionally let go of the things that keep us from God. We have the great joy of ministry before us as the season revives our hearts, minds and souls, and the virus weakens. We invite you to celebrate and grow with us as we look to increase our opportunities for fellowship together. Join in the music, the friendship in Sunday School and Bible study, a travel log with potluck dinner, RAP, word day, and our efforts in ministry in our service groups. It is a joy to live life fully in Christ, and we look forward to getting to know one another more deeply, as we move through this spring.

- Tim



## Worship in March 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.*



### March 2nd, Ash Wednesday ~ 7:00 p.m.

We will look at scriptures from *Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21*, and *II Corinthians 5:20-6:10* as we consider the ways to prepare our hearts for Easter's promise. We live closely in the understanding that our lives, literally, have been made from dust, it's God's miracle, and to dust we will one day return, our lives belong to God. We can approach this truth more deeply because of the promise of Resurrection in Christ and our faith in eternal life.

Join us on Ash Wednesday for the imposition of ashes and reflection on our lives.

### March 6th, First Sunday in Lent

Our scripture will be taken from Luke 4:1-13, and Romans 10:8b-13 as we examine the joy that shines brightly from salvation in Christ, and the fullness of living in the freedom God provides, a freedom that comes with temptations and extraordinary blessings and fulfillment.



### March 13th, Second Sunday in Lent

Mel Leaman will be preaching as Tim will be away on vacation

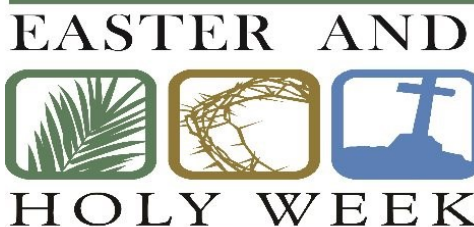
### March 20th, Third Sunday in Lent

Jim Mundell will be preaching, and Tim will be back from vacation on the 17<sup>th</sup>.

### March 27th, Fourth Sunday in Lent

We are likely to look at Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32, and II Corinthians 5:16-21, the parable of the prodigal and his brother, and the mystery of reconciliation. What a great witness it is to God's creativity in love when we can forgive and reconcile with each other. New, creative life is possible when our lives are entrusted to God. It's a "mini-Easter."

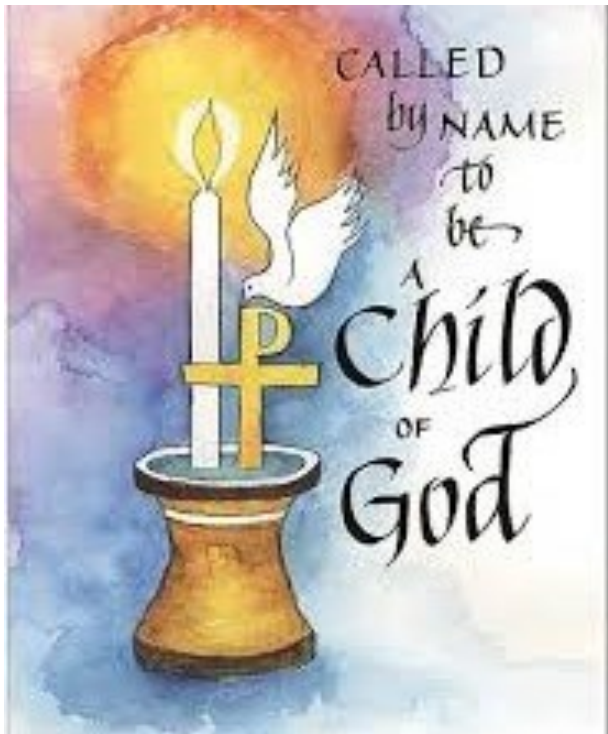
## April



**Easter comes on April 17**, and we will prepare our hearts during Holy Week with a traditional approach to Palm Sunday, offering a Holy Thursday evening communion service, and a special sunrise service, and then a second, blended Easter service at 9:30. We look forward to celebrating God's promises to us as we remember what Christ has done for us. We are planning on staying with a

single, blended worship service for now. We look forward to the opportunity to return to two services as we open up more after the pandemic.

# Pastor's Desk



## Baptism & What Really Counts

A story was recently shared in the news about a priest in Arizona who baptized for 16 years, and many in the church are fearful that the baptisms “may not count.” Apparently when he baptized, instead of saying, “**I** baptize you in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,” he said, “We” baptize you. Many people are asking, “Huh? What does it matter?” They have been described as “botched” baptisms. One of many reasons why there are different denominations and churches in Christianity, is found in our approach and the ways we see and live out our baptisms. More than a vaccination against evil, baptism is a sign and means of God’s grace. It is a beginning of life more deeply defined and centered in Christ, accepting that God has initiated and first loved us and offers us this incredible relationship in Jesus together. In

ordination, authority is anointed and entrusted upon an ordained pastor to teach and lead in the sacraments. How we relate with God and then put our relationship and faith into practice is our first priority.

One dynamic we emphasize in our denomination is that through baptism we are brought into the fullness of the fellowship in Christ in the Church. We believe faith always leads us to live in fellowship in loving relationships and not in isolation. When we baptize, it is not a private ritual. We share it in, and as a fellowship, we do all we can to make it part of our worship service and engage the whole church in the covenant together. The congregation promises to help the person grow and mature in their love and relationship with God and others, and we all learn, grow, and mature in new ways from the person being baptized becomes part of our lives of faith. We see how vital a covenant this is for families and their children; it takes a community to rear a child. So, there is understanding in a priest’s desire to say, “we” instead of “I.” And yet a sacred authority is entrusted to a priest and to pastors to represent and speak on behalf of God; not everyone has the authority to baptize a person, certain dynamics require preparation and care. In our practice of ordination, the bishop says to the ordinand, “Go take authority.” So most pastors and priests would say, “I” during a baptism, knowing God is really the central Presence and power at baptism. It is vital to live out the authority as a means of sharing the Gospel. May we all be part of a priestly people in Christ who have focused upon God to provide our identity love, and direction we need in life.





## CHURCH CLEAN-UP! SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 2022

The Trustees need your help between the hours of 8 a.m. and 1 p.m., to spruce up our church so it remains an inviting place to visit and to worship.

There are jobs for all ages, so bring those kids along to help!

**OUTSIDE:** Trim bushes in flowerbeds and along parking lots.  
Weed flowerbeds and remove dead foliage.  
Remove unused garden plots.  
Cleanup dirt along parking lot curbs.  
Remove weeds in drainage basin.  
Wash and dry all exterior doors.  
Brush and apply sealant to Harmony Road stairs.  
Remove weeds on bank sides to Harmony Road stairs.  
Slate pavers at trash area.

**INTERIOR:** Wash windows.  
Wipe woodwork in sanctuary.  
Wipe woodwork in rooms.  
Wipe and wax cabinets in North Wing classrooms and administrative offices.  
Wipe and wax cabinets in Narthex.

If you are unable to help, a donation for the purchase of flowers or cleaning supplies would be greatly appreciated. Please pray for good weather and for many volunteers to get the jobs done so our church will continue to be a welcoming place in our community.

A sign up sheet will be posted in the Narthex. It will list the specific tasks--including tools and supplies necessary to complete the job. **If you prefer to do a job before or after April 9th, please contact Kim Smith (610) 593-5358.**



### SNOW CANCELLATIONS:

Winter is upon us! The church will post any cancellations of worship services on our website, [www.westgroveumc.org](http://www.westgroveumc.org), through our constant contact email, our Facebook page, and our phone message by 7:00 a.m. on day of cancellation.



Through Bridge of Hope, our church family has a new opportunity to extend the love and care Christ has given us, to families facing homelessness. Bridge of Hope is a unique ministry, a three-way partnership among families facing homelessness, church-based Neighboring Volunteers trained to

provide practical support and encouragement, and professional staff. Rather than offering short-term solutions, the Bridge of Hope Neighborhood of Support is designed to last 18 to 24 months to give families the time and opportunities necessary for long-term change. We are hoping to get about 10 volunteers who would commit to "neighboring" a family. Neighboring is similar to what we do, as we support and care for family and friends. We would be available to a family dealing with homelessness, by being a support network for them. We might provide a ride, make a meal together, help with taxes, homework assistance, and/or make a phone call offering encouragement. Each family and volunteers are unique, so neighboring will be specific to those working in partnership. This seems like a great way to continue our care for families facing homelessness, in the absence of being able to house them in the local churches, through Family Promise.

**If this sounds like something you would care to know more about, please contact Joan Leaman (jmleaman@comcast.net).**

Thanks for your prayerful consideration of this wonderful opportunity.

## **POTLUCK DINNER follow by a Travelogue** **"ANTARCTICA'S WHITE WILDERNESS"**

**Wednesday, March 30th**

**5:30 p.m.**



Come and join us on **Wednesday, March 30th at 5:30 PM** for a cover dish dinner. Bring your favorite dish to share, if you are able, but know you are all invited!

The dinner will be followed by a travelogue shared by Jim and Betty Mundell to South America, visiting

Buenos Aires, Ushuaia, and Antarctica. There we will be able to go ashore and walk amongst the hatching penguins, pass by floating icebergs, and view some wild sea life. We will return to the tip of South America through a 100-year storm on the Drake Passage, then travel to the Argentina, Brazil borders to view the world's largest electric power plant and Igassu Falls.



## Retired Active People



## Retired Active People (RAP)

**Friday, March 11, 2022, 12:00 PM**

Thank you to all who helped with our February gathering. We enjoyed a great afternoon of fellowship, desserts and a captivating program presented by Scott Steele. Scott is the local historian and a member of WGUMC. He highlighted interesting information regarding the West Grove Fire Department and the

1928 West Grove Casket Factory fire. Thank you, Scott, for a very engaging program.

Please join us at our next gathering on **Friday, March 11, 2022, at noon** in the sanctuary of the church. Bring your lunch and enjoy provided beverages and delicious desserts.

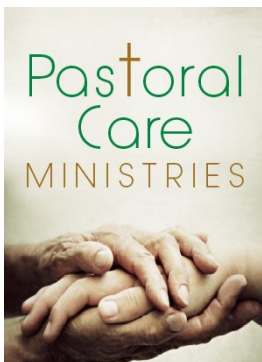
Our March program will be presented by Sara Dickens-Trillo, Coordinator of Mighty Writers El Futuro Kennett. Sara will highlight the programs provided by Mighty Writers which has grown from literacy and family education programs to a food distribution outreach. When the pandemic paralyzed the country in 2020, Sara identified a need to keep our local Latinx children and families fed. This program has grown and they have been providing the food distribution here at WGUMC on Fridays, since August 2020. Come and hear how Mighty Writers has impacted the lives of thousands of people in our community by providing them with the most essential items every single human needs to survive.

If you are available to help with our setup, starting at 10:30 am, or stay a few minutes later to help with cleanup, please call Sara Ann Ramberger (610-869-3863). Thank you to those who sign up each month to provide desserts. If you would like to be more involved with RAP or have a program of interest to provide or know of someone willing to give a presentation, please let Sara Ann know. We would like to start lining up our programs for the coming year.

Again, thank you to everyone who helps make our gatherings each month both interesting and delicious. We are so delighted to be back on a regular monthly schedule. Mark your calendars to remember that we meet every second Friday of the month from September through May.

**Everyone is welcome! Invite a friend or two and join us for a wonderful afternoon of fellowship.**

RAP Committee: Paulette Bryan, Cindy Haley, Caryl Stuhrke, and Sara Ann Ramberger



Please let Pastor Tim, Pastor Jim, or the church office know if you or a loved one is in the hospital or in need of a Pastor's visit or care.

We would love to support you and your family with a visit.

If you desire to receive communion and cannot come to the church, please call Pastor Tim (610-881-5105) or email him at [pastor@westgroveumc.org](mailto:pastor@westgroveumc.org) and he will be happy to arrange a time to for you to receive communion.

**PASTOR JIM'S**  
**CHRISTIAN LIVING COLUMN**  
 helping us to live the Christian life  
 March 2022

In keeping with offering you a Bible verse to memorize or add to your knowledge, this month's verse is John 10:11. "**I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.**" Jesus refers to Himself as the "Good Shepherd," He especially notes His willingness to die for the sake of the flock. Jesus is willing to sacrifice Himself to save those He protects. Therefore, He went to the cross, to die for us, taking our sin and paying our penalty, that we may be deemed righteous in the sight of God. Let us reflect on this verse as we prepare for Lent and Easter, the resurrection of our Good Shepherd, who leads, guides, and protects us in our current life.

As we end the season called Epiphany, we enter Lent. Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday (March 3, 2022) and ends on Holy Saturday. The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry.



Lent is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. In the early church, Lent began as a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by new converts and then became a time of penance by all Christians. Today, Christians focus on relationship with God, growing as disciples and extending ourselves, often choosing to give up something or to volunteer and give of ourselves for others.

Sundays in Lent are not counted in the forty days because each Sunday represents a "mini-Easter." This is why you will see the designation "Sunday in Lent" rather than "Sunday of Lent" in the naming of these Sundays. On each Lord's Day in Lent, while Lenten fasts continue, the reverent spirit of Lent is tempered with joyful anticipation of the Resurrection.

*(Produced by Ask The UMC, a ministry of United Methodist Communications)*

May we take time to reflect on the life of Jesus as He gave Himself for us.

Pastor Jim



A CONTINUING CARE RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

**Jenner's Pond Residents:** Join us for worship on **March 13th at 11 a.m.** On your closed circuit TV and in-person in Alison Theater, Led by Pastor Jim



# YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



## Youth Group schedule for March

**March 6, 13, 27**

Middle school- 4:00-5:00 p.m.

High school- 5:00-6:30 p.m.

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## Dodgeball & Game Night

Friday, March 4

6:30-8:30 p.m.

Dodgeball nights are back! All students in grades 6-12 are welcome to come, friends are always invited as well!

Students need \$3 for pizza and a health/permission waiver form. Contact Melanie Hartley for information or forms.



## Summer Service Trip 2022

**June 26- July 2, 2022**

**Boston, Massachusetts**

Our summer work trip team will be heading to Boston this June to work with Next Step Ministries. Next Step Ministries works closely with organizations and individuals in need in areas around the United States, building bridges within communities.

***Any students entering grade 8 through graduating seniors are welcome to attend. Any adults or parents interested in being volunteer leaders are also welcome!***

***A final group number is needed by March 15. If you have not signed up yet, Please do so with Melanie Hartley ASAP.***

Information about the trip, including cost, important dates, and COVID-related information is available. Contact Melanie Hartley for information and to sign up!



## High School Spring Retreat at Gretna Glen

**March 18-20, 2022**

Our high school retreat is back this spring!

We'll be heading to Gretna Glen for a weekend of relaxation and fun!

The Cost is \$120, due by March 18.

***Students can sign up to attend by Friday, March 11.***

***\*Scholarship funds are available to any students. Contact Melanie for information***

## Children's Worship: Sunday, March 6

**9:30 a.m. service**

## Children's Sunday School

**Sunday mornings, 10:45-11:45 a.m.**

*In Sunday school, we will be learning about different stories and passages in the bible. Each week we will have a bible lesson, some questions to think about, and an activity that connects us to the story.*

**March 6 is the first week of Lent!** We will have a take-home option for families who will not be present on Sunday mornings. *Details on take-home Lenten Sunday school will be coming soon.*

If you would like information about the children's ministry and Christian education, contact Melanie.



## Children's Game Night

**Friday, March 11**

**6:45-8:00 p.m.**



The "big kids" aren't the only ones

allowed to have fun!

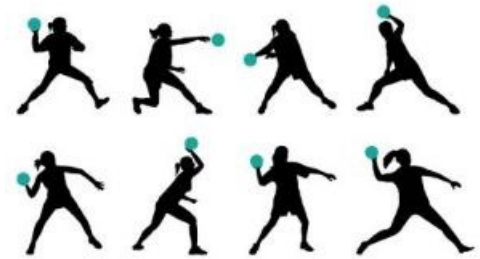
We are planning a night of fun for our friends in grades 1-5. We'll play some games, share a snack and have a mini-lesson (think Moment for all ages style). More details to come, so keep an eye out for our children's ministry emails. Contact Melanie Hartley with any questions or for information!



## YOUTH DODGEBALL & GAME NIGHT

**1ST Fridays**

**March 4th, 6:30-8:30 p.m.**



We are restarting our monthly dodgeball/game nights!

On the first Friday of the month (February-May) We will meet for dodgeball and other group games. All students in middle school & high school are welcome as well as friends!

***What we need from students:*** Health/permission waiver for each student (this includes any friends) and \$3 for pizza

Contact Melanie with any questions or if you are a parent who is able to help chaperone!



**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 for the 9:30 a.m. and Sunday School hours.**

If you are interested in helping in the nursery (about once a month), please contact Amy Castaldi at [ahass17@hotmail.com](mailto:ahass17@hotmail.com) or at (610-468-4321).

Dear SPRC and WGUMC Family,

Thank you so much for the generous Christmas gift. It was so nice of you to think of me during the Christmas season. I enjoy working with the church and the very nice people here.

Thank you so much for everything!

Love, Maira Tena



**Vacation Bible School 2022**

**Save the dates!**

Vacation bible school will be  
July 11-15,

9:00-12:00 p.m.

**We can't wait to see you there!**



## Children's Morning Out and Preschool

Happy March! It is hard to believe that it is already March. The first two months of 2022 have flown by here at preschool. March will be a busy month. We will kick off the month by celebrating *Read Across America Week*! We will have school wide theme days that whole week to celebrate books and encourage the love of reading. For the remainder of the month, the children will be learning about rainbows, colors, and Spring. There are so many fun activities from watching 2 colors blend into a whole new color, imagining what can be found at the end of the rainbow, and reading fun stories. **Mid month, we will have our Spring/Summer Consignment Sale. This event is a huge fundraiser for the Preschool program. I am always in need of volunteers, so please reach out to me if you would like to help out.** To wrap up the month the children will be learning about Community Helpers. We hope to have many local community helpers like fire fighters, police officers, school bus drivers, and more so we can learn all about their jobs. We are looking forward to the continued warmer winter weather so we can enjoy outside time.

*Heather Smalley, CMO & Preschool, Director*

## Children's Consignment Sale



Spring/Summer  
Children's clothes,  
shoes, coats, toys, baby  
items and equipment.

Friday, March 18th ~ 9am – 3:00pm

Saturday, March 19th ~ 9am – 12:00 pm

West Grove United Methodist Church Children's Morning Out and Preschool will be holding its annual Children's Consignment Sale. This is a great chance to buy quality used children's items that you need at great prices!

If you are interested in consigning, you can pick up an instruction packet at the church. For additional details, please call the Heather Smalley at 610-806-5393 or email her at [cmo@westgoveumc.org](mailto:cmo@westgoveumc.org) Thank you!

## **LENTEN BIBLE STUDY**

**Lenten Bible Study to be held on the six Monday evenings of Lent beginning on March 7 at 6:30 PM** in the sanctuary. Our study will be on the Book of Ephesians. A letter written by the Apostle Paul. He founded the church during his second missionary trip and returned during his third missionary trip and stayed three years.

Our study is titled: “**The Unity of the Church in Christ Jesus**”. It was God who established the church and Christ is the head and the power within it. In this letter Paul helps to explain God’s goals for the church on earth. It is God, in and through Christ, who has unified all believers into one body, called the church.

Since Lent is a time to prepare ourselves for the resurrection of Christ on Easter. This study will be helpful for our spiritual growth as we prepare to celebrate the resurrection. This study will be taught by Pastor Jim Mundell. Bring your Bibles as we delve into this study using a PowerPoint program prepared by Pastor Jim.



## **2022 Tools for Ministry**



It’s time to open the proverbial tool box again to help build and repair church ministries—to fix what’s broken and improve what’s working. That requires leadership development and training more than anything else.

So the Eastern PA Conference will sponsor its **2022 Tools for Ministry on Saturday, March 5, 9 AM to 12:30 PM**. Classes will be offered virtually on Zoom once again, out of an

abundance of caution during the still-surging COVID pandemic.

Tools for Ministry is a half-day academy offering two sessions of diverse, dynamic learning for leaders. And it’s open to all laity and clergy. Skilled instructors will provide valuable information, wise insights and helpful resources. And some classes will be recorded and made available later to be viewed again or for the first time by those who want to learn more.

**[Click here to see the full list of workshop descriptions.](#)**

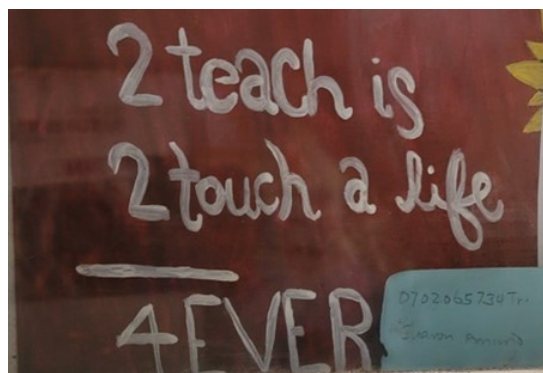
**Register today** before some classes fill up!



## Kenya, Africa Mission Trip 2022

Michael W. Duvall

I would like to begin my report by thanking everyone who gave a donation to purchase sewing machines for the Sonshine Vocational School in Usueni, Kenya! Between West Grove UMC and a few other sources, enough money was donated to purchase 16 new sewing machines for young women to learn how to design and create clothes. This will equip them for a brighter future.



I eagerly anticipated this trip and I was not disappointed. I feel so blessed to have been a part of this mission team. There were numerous obstacles to overcome to prepare for the trip and then the trip itself was quite a journey. It was a 22-hour trip from JFK, to Nairobi with a stopover in Doha, Qatar.

We worshiped at New City Fellowship Church in Nairobi. English is the National Language of Kenya, so we worshiped in both English and Swahili. They also live-stream their services and post them on their church website. This is partly due to COVID and part of their outreach strategy.

We spent a couple of days in Nairobi recovering from jet-lag, arranging transportation and picking up supplies.

It was a 2-day journey by Land Cruiser from Nairobi to Usueni.

Our mission was to help raise the trusses into position for welding and then to install the metal roof. It was 94 degrees F with high humidity. The days were long and hot! There was no air conditioning, fans, or screens. To say we were living in primitive conditions would be an understatement; we didn't even have Internet! Can you imagine?

We also had the privilege of seeing the village experience pure, clean well water for the first time! What a celebration!

After leaving Usueni, we visited two other missions; a small orphanage, and the El Shaddai school in the slums of Nairobi.



I will be sharing photos, videos and stories about this trip in the future. So, keep your eyes and ears open. Come and see the amazing things that God is doing in Africa!

Yesu anakupenda! (Jesus Loves You!)  
Mungu akubariki! (God Bless You!)

**Michael W. Duvall**

## West Grove UMC Calendar of Events



Be sure to check out the church calendar on our website. Many activities have resumed such as R.A.P., Bible studies, Zoom and in-person meetings, and Giving Envelopes to pick up to name a few.

**Sunday School** has classes for adults (Faithlinks and Men's Class) and children of all ages. 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)



## Mighty Writers—Keep It Warm and Mighty

...Staying warm was what we had on our mind when we asked Kelly Lasserre, MW's talented design director, to heat up our February by creating this **limited-edition sweatshirt**. For a donation of \$50, not only will you be contributing to our literacy mission, but we'll be sending you this specially-designed Mighty sweatshirt to keep you toasty on these cold winter days.

Just [click here](https://mightyshop.org/mighty-writers-online-shop/p/limited-edition-sweatshirt) to order-- hurry, please, we have a limited supply!

<https://mightyshop.org/mighty-writers-online-shop/p/limited-edition-sweatshirt>

xoxo

Think clearly. Write with clarity. Success follows.



## 'Clothed in love': Undies for Easter

**Many are donating Undies for Easter**

**Underwear purchase appeal expanded**

**UPDATE:** Our Undies for Easter campaign is enroute to becoming a big success! The conference-wide effort to collect 2,000 pairs of men's briefs for persons incarcerated in the Philadelphia Prison System and

donate them to the head chaplain there before Easter is three-quarters of the way to its goal. So, now we want to do more.

"We now have 1,500 men's briefs purchased," reported the Rev. Marilyn Schneider Friday. "So we have added to the Amazon gift registry 2,000 men's undershirts and 600 women's briefs. We want to ensure there is opportunity for many to contribute."

Head Chaplain Carmelo Urena, who serves about 6,000, mostly male prisoners, tells us that each receives only one pair of underwear upon entering the system, His aim is to provide at least one additional pair of underwear to each new, incoming inmate.

Anyone can use the Undies for Easter Gift Registry on Amazon.com to purchase the underwear items for men and women. This will benefit the health and wellness of our incarcerated brothers and sisters.

**All purchases must be made online via Amazon before Palm Sunday, April 10. Select "EPAUMC's Prison Ministry Gift Registry Address" for direct shipping. Contact the Rev. Marilyn Schneider, of the EPA UMC Prison Ministries & Restorative Justice Team, at [prisonministries@epaumc.org](mailto:prisonministries@epaumc.org) with any questions.**



## AMAZON SMILE AND HOW YOU CAN HELP THE CHURCH

Due to Covid, many of us have been depending on on-line shopping to limit our exposure. If you use Amazon for your shopping, would you please consider signing in under

Amazon Smile? It's the same stuff, same account, but you get to chose a charity and Amazon will donate (at no cost to you) a percentage of what you spend to the charity. Of course, we hope you chose **West Grove United Methodist Church** when you make your choice. It's painless and it helps the church. **Please ask your family and friends to chose us too!**

*I was amazed at how my Christmas shopping allowed donations to build up for the church. If everyone did it, it would be a wonderful gift to the church. Donna*

**Gift cards and store cards. SCRIP IS STILL GOING STRONG!** If you are ordering gift cards for the holidays to shop or give as gifts, grocery cards, gas cards, a selection of many store and restaurant cards, please place your order through the church! Restaurant cards can be used for Take-Out if you don't want to dine in! We get a percentage as a donation to the church, so every card you purchase, helps the church! **Please call Gene Aucott to place your order today! 610-869-7355**



## Do you receive the weekly Constant Contact emails from the church?

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! Donna



# Open Grow Serve



## OUR MONTHLY SHOUT OUTS!

Winter is bringing many gifts to the church! We have had meetings, events, fellowship time and hosted groups. 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).

### A Big Thank You to:

**Sharon Nesbitt and Esther Culbertson** who were invaluable in their skills at helping the office coordinate and collate information for our 2020 and 2021 audits.

**Maira Tena** who goes above and beyond her duties as sexton to keeping our church clean and welcoming.

**Cindy Haley** who did input of all the data to Servant Keeper of our Time and Talents. Big job!!

**Steve May** who is so gracious with his time and talents in tech for the church.

**Mark Simonds** who oversaw a roof repair. **The trustees** are all amazing and need to know how grateful we are for all that do on a daily basis.

## BIRTHDAYS IN MARCH

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

3/09 Linda Peirson

3/09 Jay Schoff

3/10 Linda Shiplet

3/10 Mike Wiwel

3/11 Colton McCummings



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

3/13 Duane Bruno

3/13 Dick Stuhrke

3/14 Sonny Dunn

3/14 Kristin Boyd

3/14 Erik Hendrickson

3/15 Nathan Robinson

3/19 Stella Krohn

3/21 Michael Duvall

3/21 Maira Tena

3/23 Pam Howard

3/23 Caryl Sturke

3/24 Zachary McMinn

3/26 Betsy Smith

3/27 Carolyn Bratton

3/27 Shannon Murphy



**West Grove United Methodist Church**  
OPEN • GROW • SERVE

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610-869-9334 [office@westgroveumc.org](mailto:office@westgroveumc.org)

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

[davsan5@comcast.net](mailto:davsan5@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

Kim O'Neil and Kim Smith - Co-Trustee Chairs

OPEN - Finance Chair

OPEN - Treasurer

OPEN - Financial Secretary

OPEN - SPRC Chair

Steve May—Tech Team Leader

Melanie Hartley - Christian Education

Melanie Hartley - Children's Ministry Team Contact

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

Dick and Caryl Stuhrike - 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—Ad Council Member at Large

Cindy Hoover—CMO Advisory Board Chair

OPEN—R.A.P Coordinator