



West Grove United Methodist Church

OPEN • GROW • SERVE

The Reverend Timothy Carl Anderman
300 North Guernsey Road
West Grove, PA 19390
www.westgroveumc.org
610-869-9334

Love



Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 18, 2022

11:00 a.m. Worship

Prelude

“How Far is It to Bethlehem?”

Memory Bells

Arranged by Martha Lynn Thompson

Welcome and Ministry Opportunities

Pastor Tim

Lighting of the Advent Candle is our Love *Isaiah 9:6-7*

Confirmants

“For a child has been born unto us, a son given to us; authority rests on his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David & his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness. From this time onward and forever more. The Zeal of the Lord of host will do this!”

We light this candle as a symbol of the Prince of Peace.

May the visitation of your Holy Spirit, O God,

Make us ready for the coming of Jesus, our hope and joy.

O come, O come, Emmanuel!

*Call to Worship (Based on Comfort & Joy, by Tasha Layton)

Pastor Jim

Leader: Everybody is saying ‘Merry Christmas;’ Everybody is smiling, singing happy songs.

People: **But this December, if your world is unraveling, and you don’t feel like singing along,**

Leader: Friends are sending cards with warmest wishes, but if you are lonely, it feels like winter winds.

People: **So let us take our hearts back to the center of the season, and there see the gift that came to us in Bethlehem!**

Leader: Jesus Christ! He is heaven’s love! Here at last!

People: **Forever God with us! All our hope found in a baby boy, for he knew we needed comfort and joy!**

*Opening Hymn

“Angels From The Realms Of Glory”

UMH No. 220

Moment for All Ages

Melanie Hartley

(The children are invited to go with the Children’s Worship leader to Room 12 for their activities.)

Opening Prayer

Pastor Tim

**Almighty God, we thank you for your constant love
and for the blessings of this day,
for the freedoms you have entrusted to us all,
from Adam and Eve, to Abraham, to Mary and Joseph,
and to our hearts this day.**

**Help us to trust you more each day
and know that even when we cannot see or feel you,
still you are with us.**

Help us to remember to listen for your voice

**and not turn away nor hold back our hearts of faith,
as words are spoken by family, friends, and strangers.**

**Kindle our hearts and awaken hope,
that we may know you more fully as you reveal your self in the world.
Let the light of your Holy Spirit shine brightly in the darkness,
and may it come and dwell deeply and fully from within us.
In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.**

Scripture Lesson	<i>Isaiah 7:10-16</i>	Pastor Tim
Meditation	"Prepared Hearts and Lives"	Pastor Tim
Anthem	"Light a Candle for Peace"	Chancel Choir Trombone, Jake Schneider Words and Music by Ruth Elaine Schram
*Gospel Lesson	<i>Matthew 1:18-25</i>	Joyce Lewis
Affirmation of Faith: Romans 8:35, 37-39		Joyce Lewis
Leader: Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation or distress, or persecution or famine, or nakedness or peril or sword?		
People: No! In all things we are more than conquerors through the One who loved us. We are sure that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Thanks be to God! Amen.		
*Hymn of Response	"Away In A Manger"	UMH No. 217
Joys and Concerns		Pastor Jim
Pastoral Prayer		Pastor Jim
Invitation to the Offering		Pastor Jim
Offertory	"O Holy Night"	Memory Bells Arranged by Ron Mallory
Dedication of Offering		Pastor Jim
*Closing Hymn	"Love Came Down At Christmas"	UMH No. 242
*Benediction		Pastor Tim
*Postlude		

Passing of the Peace, Time of Hospitality

Please join us for a time of Fellowship and Sunday School following the service.

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

***We now offer a more informal, earlier service at 8:30 a.m.
We invite you to come!***

8:30 a.m. Worship

Welcome and Ministry Opportunities

Lighting of the Advent Candle is our Love

Pastor Tim and Pastor Jim
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*Call to Worship (Based on Comfort & Joy, by Tasha Layton)

Pastor Tim

Leader: Everybody is saying 'Merry Christmas;' Everybody is smiling, singing happy songs.

People: But this December, if your world is unraveling, and you don't feel like singing along,

Leader: Friends are sending cards with warmest wishes, but if you are lonely, it feels like winter winds.

People: So let us take our hearts back to the center of the season, and there see the gift that came to us in Bethlehem!

Leader: Jesus Christ! He is heaven's love! Here at last!

People: Forever God with us! All our hope found in a baby boy, for he knew we needed comfort and joy!

Hymn

"Angels From The Realms Of Glory"

UMH Hymn No. 220

Opening Prayer

Pastor Tim
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Scripture

Isaiah 7:1-16

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Message

"Prepared Hearts and Lives"

Pastor Tim

Scripture

Matthew 1:18-25

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Affirmation of Faith: Romans 8:35, 37-39

Pastor Tim
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Joys and Concerns

Pastor Jim

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Pastor Jim

Invitation to Offering

Pastor Jim

Dedication of Offering

Pastor Jim

*Closing Hymn

"Love Came Down At Christmas"

UMH No. 242

Benediction

Pastor Tim

Passing of the Peace, Time of Hospitality

Please join us for a time of Fellowship and Sunday School following the service.

Scripture Lesson: *Isaiah 7:10-16*

¹⁰ Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹ “Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” ¹² But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test.” ¹³ Then Isaiah said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals that you weary my God also? ¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel. ¹⁵ He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶ For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

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

The Birth of Jesus the Messiah

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²² All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³ “Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,”

which means, “God is with us.” ²⁴ When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife ²⁵ but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son,²⁶ and he named him Jesus.



CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICES: We are happy to announce that we are having 3 services this year. The Memory Bells will be greeting us in the lobby prior to the 6 pm service and will play at that service. The 6 p.m. service will be family oriented and child friendly. Our 8 p.m. service will have a more contemporary flair and will feature our Praiseworks

Band. At 10 p.m. will have a traditional service with our Chancel Choir. We hope that you will join us and invite your family and friends as well!

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 God's name.

Welcome, one and all! Church Office: 610-869-9334

Our Website: www.westgroveumc.org Email us at info@westgroveumc.org

WELCOME, ONE AND ALL! Faith, hope and love are gifts of God. May you find them here. If you have come as a guest, we hope that you'll leave as a friend and pray you'll be nourished in faith as you hear God's message for you today. We encourage you to join us again. Please honor us by signing the Friendship Pad. Our Welcome Center, located in the lobby, is a place where guests and new attendees can seek information about our church.

2022 UPDATED CHURCH DIRECTORIES AVAILABLE IN THE LOBBY.

SHARING THE SPIRIT OF GIVING WITH RESIDENTS AT TWIN PINES: Gifts for the residents of Twin Pines are due on Monday, December 19th. We have been given the names of 20 residents and their gift suggestions. Those gift tags are hanging on the small Christmas tree in the lobby. **We ask you to wrap the gifts and put the tag on the outside of the gift. Wrapped gifts should be brought to the church and placed under the tree by Monday, December 19th.** Thank you for your generosity!

AMAZON SMILE: When shopping this holiday season, **please sign on to Amazon Smile** and chose West Grove UMC as the non-profit you would like have benefit from your shopping. You only have to do this once and then just sign in under Amazon Smile when you shop. **It costs you NOTHING** and the church gets a percentage of all purchases from all shoppers. If you have any questions, contact Donna in the office.

POINSETTIAS: Once again, we will adorn the sanctuary with poinsettias, the beautiful Christmas season flower. **Order forms can be found on the information table in the lobby as well as in your newsletters.** Each plant will be in a 6" pot and will be red with 4 to 5 blooms. **The cost is \$7.00 each.** The order form enables you to place a flower in the sanctuary in honor, memory or in celebration of a special person or event. Simply fill out the form and drop it in the offering plate **by Sunday, December 18** or in Donna Fackler's mailbox in the copy room. Those who ordered flowers, and for whom they are ordered, will be listed in the **Christmas Eve and Christmas Day bulletins.** All flowers will adorn the sanctuary until after Christmas. You may pick up your flowers on Sunday, December 25 after the 11:00 a.m. Service and during that week. Any flowers remaining will be delivered to our homebound and nursing home residents. Thank you.

ANNUAL COATS, BLANKETS AND SLEEPING BAG DRIVE: The Mighty Writers in conjunction with our church's mission, are collecting **new and lightly** used Men, Women, and Children's Coats of all sizes, blankets of all sizes and sleeping bags. Your donations can be brought to the church lobby. Ideally, they need them by December 19th, but will be collecting them through the end of the year. Let's all help keep someone warm this winter! Thank you, in advance, for your generosity.

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

NEED PRAYER?

Prayer Requests: Please do not leave prayer requests on the prayer chain email. It is not monitored. Email Donna Fackler at office@westgroveumc.org or 610-869-9334 or Email Susan Paisley at sbrintonpais1@verizon.net or call 610-268-3305. Your request will be shared with the prayer chain, and if you would like, it will be noted below in the bulletin Prayer List.

Tom Adams
Dianne Bunch
(Stuhrke)
Helen Carlin
Dick & Mildred
Chambers

Joann Coates
Pat Crawl (Shiplet)
Dan and Liz DePaul
(Jackson)
Irm Devom (Stryjewski)
Lena Douglas
Linda Eyster (Combs)
Bill Fili, Jr. (Bratton)
Joyce Flowers (Mullen)
Judy Gambill
Richard Heacock
Alan Herb (Shiplet)
Jennifer Hertzog (Jackson)
Family of Don Hurst
Lynn Jackson
Debbie Kennedy (Coates)
Erica Lindell (Stryjewski)
Jeff Luttman (Miller)
Ted Lynam (Stuhrke)



Jim May (Mullen)
Lenny Martin (K.
Smith)
Betty Mundell
Tim Mullen

Lola Nadolny (Hruz)
Brian Radcliffe (Hruz)
Michael Raineri
Rick Renzulli (McGinley)
Sam Reyburn (Shiplet)
Rich and Joan Saller
RoAnn Bates Schneider
Levi Schrum (Carmichael)
Linda Shiplet
Ian Smedley (Heist)
Rick Spencer (Kim Smith)
Flora Spiegel (Strewjewski)
Jeannette Strewjewski
Jeannie Sullivan
Stephen Syska (Mullen)
Mary Weidman (Miller)
Jill Williams (Miller)
Tyler Winters (Saller)
Kay Yates



Anderson S. Camp
Navy, Norfolk, VA (Shaub)

Nathaniel Howard,
USA

Brian Kubo—Washington
(Mullen)

LTC Eric Maxwell,
Fayetteville, NC
(Sara Ann Ramberger)

Chris Weidman—Idaho
(Miller)

Dalton Wolfe-U.S. Marine
Corps

Drew Zumpino—USA
(Beauchamp)

God's Faithfulness ~ Your Stewardship

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

Report from December 11, 2022

General Offering: \$ 9,547

Building Maintenance Fund: \$ 90

Thanksgiving Offering To-Date: \$ 1,050

Attendance: In-Person and You Tube

8:30 a.m.: 24 11:00 a.m.: 72

Food Pantry: 23 families on 12/08/2022

SERVANTS IN MINISTRY ON SUNDAY MORNING

Sunday Morning Servants

Live-Stream	Michael Duvall, Steve May
Digital Audio, Camera	Nate Robinson, Will Stuhrke, Doyle Stuhrke, Maggie Stuhrke and Reed Smith
Audio/Visual/Live-Stream Tech	Mike Wiwel
Officiating:	Rev. Timothy Carl Anderman Rev. S. James Mundell
Music Director:	Betsy Smith
Moment for All Ages:	Melanie Hartley

	<u>Today: 12/18/22</u>	<u>Next Week: 12/25/22</u>
Nursery Aide:	OPEN	Open
Children's Worship:	Melanie Hartley	Melanie Hartley
Roamers:	Maryanne Covington	N/A
Counters:	Joan Leaman and TBA	TBA
Lay Readers:	Joyce Lewis	Sue Curtis
Ushers:	Alison Aucott and Gene Aucott	Fred Sullivan and TBA
Greeter:	Ray Leonardo	Esther Culbertson

***Thank you to all of our Sunday Morning Servants.
Please prayerfully consider serving on Sunday mornings.
Share your interest with the office and you will be connected with the
correct person to give you information and to sign-up.***