



West Grove United Methodist Church

OPEN • GROW • SERVE

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



*December 24, 2023 — Fourth Sunday of Advent
Christmas Eve— 7:00 pm Service*

7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship

Prelude

Lighting of the Advent Candle & Christ Candle:

The Castaldi Family

*Call to Worship (Based on Titus 2:11-14)

Leader: God's readiness to give is now public! Salvation is available for everyone!

People: We're being shown how to reach beyond a godless, indulgent life, and to take in a God-filled, God honoring life!

Leader: This new life is starting right now! It whets our appetite for the glorious day when our great God and Savior Jesus Christ appears!

People: He offered himself as a sacrifice to free us from a dark rebellious life, for the fullness of life in God's grace and love. Come Lord Jesus! Come into our hearts this night!

*Opening Song

"Our King Has Come"

PraiseWorks

*Opening Prayer (in unison) (Based on Hymn #211 O Come, O Come Emanuel, verses 5, 6, & 7)

Dear Lord, on this most intimate of nights, help us to understand more fully, the trust You have placed in us. Forgive us for taking the miracles around us for granted. Open our eyes and ears, our minds and hearts, to embrace You in the grace You so freely share. We are grateful for this season, and all the ways it continues to grow in its meaning to us. May our hearts be attentive to what You reveal to us, and may we always live generously by Your example. Bless our homes, our hearts, our families and friends, and may we always be a blessing to You and the people in our lives. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

Scripture (page 5)

Isaiah 9: 2-4, 6-7

Pastor Tim

Hymn

"Angels We Have Heard On High"

UMH No. 238

Gospel Lesson (page 5)

Luke 2: 1-7

Pastor Tim

Hymn

"Away in a Manger"

UMN No. 217

Christmas Offering

Song

"What Child is This?"

PraiseWorks

Gospel Lesson (page 5)

Luke 2: 8-20

Pastor Tim

Christmas Message

"A Thoughtful Heart"

Pastor Tim

Sharing the Light of Christ	(Lights will be off) An Invitation to Receive Christ into Our Hearts	Pastor Tim
Christmas Hymn of Light	“Silent Night”	UMH No. 239
Proclamation	“Joy to the World”	UMH No. 246
Benediction		Pastor Tim (Lights will be turned on)
Postlude		
Passing of the Peace		

Scripture Lesson: Isaiah 9: 2-4, 6-7

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. ³You have multiplied exultation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴For the yoke of their burden and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁶For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders, and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷Great will be his authority and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Gospel Lesson: Luke 2: 1-7

The Birth of Jesus

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place in the guest room.

Gospel Lesson: Luke 2: 8-20

The Shepherds and the Angels

⁸Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” ¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them, ¹⁹and Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told them.

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.

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. **For those who need them, there are hearing aids available at the sound booth. Please feel free to ask for them.**

CHRISTMAS GIFT FOR PASTOR AND STAFF: It's that time of year once again, when we look to let our Pastor and staff know they are truly appreciated. Please use the envelopes located in the narthex. You can drop it in the offering plate or drop it off in the church office.

PASTOR JIM MUNDELL'S BIBLE STUDY: Beginning January 8th, 2024 at 6:30 pm., in the sanctuary. The study will be on the teachings of Jesus and how one is to live in the Kingdom of Heaven, here on earth. Known as the "Sermon on the Mount" found in the Gospel of Matthew, our study will take an in-depth analysis of what Jesus was teaching his followers. Please join us as we delve into Jesus's teachings on the "Sermon on the Mount".

*** * *E-MAIL CHANGES* * *:** Please note that we have separated our office email from Donna's, who is now working part time at home as our Financial Administrator. The office email is: office@westgroveumc.org. Should you need to email Donna her email is: Financialadmin@westgroveumc.org.

PLEASE DO NOT USE — donna.fackler@westgroveumc.org

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH:

7:00 p.m. Family Candlelight Service with music by our PraiseWorks Band

9:00 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Service with music by our Chancel Choir

FAREWELL PASTOR TIM: Please join us next Sunday, December 31st, (both services) as we say farewell to Pastor Tim. As you know it will be Tim's last Sunday with us and we would love to have you present to help wish him well on his journey.

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

NEED PRAYER?

Prayer Requests: Please do not leave prayer requests on the prayer chain email. It is not monitored. Email April Spencer 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.

Roger Bates
Renee Bergstrom
Family of Murphy
Berkheimer (Kapp
-Benner)

Linda Sue Black
(Hruz)

Jim (J. Bischoff)

Dianne Bunch (Stuhrke)

Helen Carlin

Beth Castaldi (K. Smith)

Courtney Castaldi (K. Smith)

Dan Castaldi (Castaldi)

Cindy (Karen Hruz Neighbor)

Joann Coates

Dante Danilshenko (Grace
Kennedy)

Katie Deeter (P. Bryan)

Dan and Liz DePaul (Jackson)

Irma Devom (Stryjewski)

Linda Eyster (Combs)

Bill Fili, Jr. (Bratton)

Joyce Flowers (Mullen)

Richard Heacock

Jennifer Hertzog (Jackson)

Karen Hruz

Lynn Jackson

Michele Johnson (Spencer)

Maria Kanno (Mullen)



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Debbie Kennedy (Coates)
Erica Libdell (Stryjewski)
Tom Kuch (Kuchs)
Ted Lynam (Stuhrke)
Lenny Marten (K. Smith)

Jim May (Mullen)

Richard Minnick

Betty Mundell

Peter Mullen

Tim Mullen

Doug Paine (Jackson)

Family of Dan DePaul
(Jackson)

Don Nixon (Mullen)

Brian Radcliffe (Hruz)

Michael Raineri

Rick Renzulli (McGinley)

Sam Reyburn (Shiplet)

Levi Schrum (Carmichael)

Connie & Jobe Simcox

David Shaver (Hruz)

Connie & Jobe Simcox

Linda Shiplet

Ian Smedley (Heist)

Reed Smith

Rick Spencer (Kim Smith)

Flora Spiegel (Strewjewski)

Gail Stuhrke (Stuhrke)

Jeannie Sullivan

Josephine Tena

Maira Tena

Mary Weidman (Miller)

Jill Williams (Miller)

Kay Yates



Nathaniel Howard,
USA

Brian Kubo—Washington
(Mullen)

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 17, 2023

General Offering: \$8150.00

Building Maintenance Fund: \$270.00

Attendance: In-Person and You Tube

8:30: 29 11:00: 52

**Food Pantry: 105 families on 12/20 &
12/21 Food donations are appreciated.**

We give thanks for those serving in worship:

Lead Pastor: The Reverend Timothy Carl Anderman

Contemporary Music Director: Betsy Smith

Visual Technician: Michael Duvall

Audio Technician: Steve May

* * * *

Thank you, Betsy Smith and PraiseWorks Band for leading our music.

Thank you, everyone who made this Christmas Eve service possible.

Thank you, to the Creating Spaces Team for their work in beautifying
our sanctuary and lobby.

Thank you to Gene Aucott for illuminating our way!

* * * *

Join us Sundays!

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300 N. Guernsey Road, West Grove, PA 19390

610-869-9334
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8:30 a.m. Worship Service
9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
11:00 a.m. Worship Service

