



# West Grove United Methodist Church

OPEN • GROW • SERVE

The Reverend Timothy Carl Anderman  
300 North Guernsey Road  
West Grove, PA 19390  
[www.westgroveumc.org](http://www.westgroveumc.org)

*First Sunday in Advent*

*Isaiah 64:1-9*

Oh that You would rend the  
heavens and come down,  
that the mountains might  
quake at Your presence—

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*December 3, 2023 — First Sunday of Advent*

# 11:00 a.m. Worship

## Welcome and Ministry Opportunities

Pastor Tim

**Lighting of the Advent Candle** (page 5) Christ is our Hope; Isaiah 60: 2—3

## Prelude

**\*Call to Worship (in unison)** (Based on various passages from Psalms, Isaiah, Zechariah, and Romans)

Leader: Lift up your heads, you mighty gates! No longer present a barrier to God, our Savior!

**People: Be lifted up, you ancient doors! So that the King of glory may come in!**

Leader: Our voices cry out: prepare the way of the Lord! Open your hearts and minds to God!

**People: Make straight in the desert places of your souls a highway for our God!**

Leader: Let us sing and rejoice, for the Lord promises to personally dwell in our midst!

**People: Many nations and peoples from all the earth will join themselves to the Lord!**

Leader: You know what time it is! Now is the moment for you to wake from sleep!

**People: For salvation is nearer to us now, more than when we became believers! The night is far gone, His day is near! So let us lay aside the works of darkness and wear the garments of His light!**

## \*Opening Hymn

“Love Divine All Loves Excelling”

UMH NO. 384

## \*Opening Prayer (in unison)

Pastor Tim

Dear Lord, patient and loving God, we so often seek our independence from You, and want to do it all for ourselves. We want to be our own persons, free to do as we want, and follow our own emotions. We then create a role for ourselves as orphans. Our relationship with You and view of faith, slips into what seems comfortable for us, and we have taken Your gift of incarnation for granted. Help us this season to accept Your grace, receive your presence and understand its depth, and what it means for us and our world. Help us come close to You, always. So that in a world distressed by broken hearts and lives, we live empowered to embody Your grace to all. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

## Moment for All Ages

Pastor Tim

## Scripture

Isaiah 64:1-9

Pastor Tim

## Meditation

“God Gladly Reaches to Us”

Pastor Tim

## Anthem

“Advent Prayer”  
Words and Music by William Sisson

Chancel Choir

## Scripture

Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19

Pastor Tim

## Blessing Our New Youth Leader

Xavier Feliciano

Pastor Tim

Xavier joins us from his previous church Iglesia Pentecostal Roca De Refugio located

in Toughkenamon Pa. He has his Bachelor's from Kutztown University. After graduation he decided to move to Kennett Square where he currently resides. Xavier has lots of exciting new ideas for growing his brand new role at West Grove UMC. He plans to foster Christian Education and community-building from childhood through young adulthood. Please feel free to reach out to him at any time or any day, with any questions or new ideas to help improve the youth program.

|                                 |                                   |             |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Communion,</b> (see insert)  | The Great Thanksgiving for Advent |             |
| <b>Hymn</b>                     | “What Wonderous Love is This”     | UMH No. 292 |
| <b>Pastoral Prayer</b>          |                                   | Pastor Jim  |
| <b>Invitation to Offering</b>   |                                   | Pastor Jim  |
| <b>Offertory</b>                |                                   |             |
| <b>Consecration of Offering</b> |                                   | Pastor Jim  |
| <b>Closing Hymn</b>             | “Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”     | UMH No. 203 |
| <b>Benediction</b>              |                                   | Pastor Tim  |
| <b>Postlude</b>                 |                                   |             |

*Please join us in the Lobby/Narthex for a time of fellowship.*  
*Please stand as you are able*    **Say in unison**

## 8:30 a.m. Worship

**Ministry Opportunities**

Pastor Tim

**Lighting of the Advent Candle** Christ is our Hope; Isaiah 60 2—3

Pastor Tim

**Call to Worship (in unison)** (Based on various passages from Psalms, Isaiah, Zechariah, and Romans)

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“Love Divine All Loves Excelling”

UMH NO. 384

**\*Opening Prayer** (Page 2)

Pastor Tim

**Scripture** (Page 5)

Isaiah 64:1-9

Pastor Tim

**Meditation**

“God Gladly Reaches to Us”

Pastor Tim

**Scripture** (Page 5)

Psalms 80: 1 – 7; 17 – 19

Pastor Jim

**Communion** (see insert) The Great Thanksgiving for Advent

**Hymn**

“What Wonderous Love is This”

UMH No. 292

**Invitation to Offering**

Pastor Tim

**Offertory**

**Consecration of Offering**

Pastor Jim

**Hymn**

“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”

Pastor Jim

**Benediction**

Pastor Tim

*Please join us in the Lobby/Narthex for a time of fellowship.  
Please stand as you are able **Bold Print = Say in unison***

## Scripture Lesson Isaiah 60: 2—3

<sup>2</sup> For darkness shall cover the earth and thick darkness the peoples, but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. <sup>3</sup> Nations shall come to your light and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

## Scripture Lesson Isaiah 64: 1—9

<sup>64</sup> O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—<sup>2</sup> as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence!

<sup>3</sup> When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down; the mountains quaked at your presence.<sup>4</sup> From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. <sup>5</sup> You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. <sup>6</sup> We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

<sup>7</sup> There is no one who calls on your name or attempts to take hold of you, for you have hidden your face from us and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. <sup>8</sup> Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. <sup>9</sup> Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

## Scripture Psalm 80: 1 -7, 17—19

### Prayer for Israel's Restoration

#### To the leader: on Lilies, a Covenant. Of Asaph. A Psalm.

<sup>1</sup> Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth <sup>2</sup> before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh. Stir up your might, and come to save us! <sup>3</sup> Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved. <sup>4</sup> O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers? <sup>5</sup> You have fed them with the bread of tears and given them tears to drink in full measure. <sup>6</sup> You make us the scorn [a] of our neighbors; our enemies laugh among themselves. <sup>7</sup> Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

<sup>17</sup> But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one whom you made strong for yourself. <sup>18</sup> Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name. <sup>19</sup> Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

# 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](http://www.westgroveumc.org) Email us at [info@westgroveumc.org](mailto: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.**

**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN** are **collecting personal care items**, such as, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, shampoo, conditioners, to be distributed to our food pantry clients during the holidays. If you would like to help us collect these items, please bring them to the church anytime in November and place them in the black bin in the lobby marked for this collection. Nancy Howard will see that these items are distributed.

**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS MUSIC CELEBRATION: Tonight, Sunday, December 3rd, 6:30 pm.** We hope you are making plans to attend this special event! Welcome the Advent Season with music by the Chancel Choir, Memory Bells, Handbell Choir, PraiseWorks Band, special musical numbers by our talented friends and, of course, a carol sing-along.

**RAP MEETS: RAP Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, at noon.** Matt Furches, the nephew of Linda and Virgil Brown, will tell us about his experiences with the famous Utah-based Boulder Outdoor Survival School. Matt and his wife live in Boulder, Utah and he has been leading BOSS courses since 2010. He originally hails from Nottingham, PA, and loved exploring rural Pennsylvania. In 2004 he hiked the Appalachian Trail from Georgia to Maine. In 2008 he discovered BOSS and trained in their survival and wilderness living techniques. He will share with us his experiences mastering the skills needed to thrive in the wilds--creating tools, fire by friction, finding edible and medicinal wild plants, navigating with maps, compass, and the stars, and catching fish with his bare hands. Join us on December 8<sup>th</sup> for this outstanding presentation!!

**COVERED DISH LUNCHEON!** Decide what favorite recipe you will prepare for your covered dish! It would be helpful to know what you selected so our committee can make sure we will have a "balanced menu"! Just let us know.

**MAKE AN ADVENT WREATH RESCHEDULED:** You haven't missed out! We have rescheduled the Advent Wreath-making for Tuesday, **December 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.** Now with a BONUS ... you'll get to meet Xavier Feliciano, our new Director of Youth and Children Ministries! Please let me know by today if you plan on joining us, so that we can have the right amount of materials for everyone. Don't worry, we'll still have plenty of cookies! Hope you will join us, Julie Anderman



**GRIEF SHARE SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS:** The holidays, while they offer many blessings, can also be a difficult time for people who are missing and grieving loved ones. With so much change happening all around us, we face grief from an overwhelming number of sources. It can prevent us from growing closer to God, our loved ones, and friends as it stifles creativity. There are ways to approach the social gatherings that can help us be blessed, and bless others. Join us for "Surviving the Holidays" **starting December 7<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 am.** If others are interested in sharing at another time, please let Pastor Tim know, and we can work to form another group at an additional time.

# 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](mailto:office@westgroveumc.org) or 610-869-9334 or Email Susan Paisley at [sbrintonpais1@verizon.net](mailto: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.

Renee Bergstrom  
Family of Murphy  
Berkheimer (Kapp-  
Benner)

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)

Debbie Kennedy (Coates)

Erica Lindell (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)

Josephine Tena

Maira Tena

Mary Weidman (Miller)

Jill Williams (Miller)

Kay Yates



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

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 November 26, 2023

**General Offering: \$2406.00.**

**Building Maintenance Fund: \$120.00**

**Attendance: In-Person and You Tube**

**8:30: 18 11:00: 55 Live Stream: 17**

**Food Pantry: 73 families on 11/29 &  
11/30 Food donations are appreciated.**

## **SERVANTS IN MINISTRY ON SUNDAY MORNING**

### **Sunday Morning Servants**

|                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Digital Audio: 8:30           | Steve May (Trainee needed)                                 |
| Live-Stream & Audio: 11:00    | Michael Duvall   |
| Sound Booth Rotating:         | Will Stuhrke, Doyle Stuhrke, Maggie Stuhrke and Reed Smith |
| Audio/Visual/Live-Stream Tech | Mike Wiwel   |
| Officiating:                  | Rev. Timothy C. Anderman<br>Rev. S. James Mundell          |
| Music Director:               | Betsy Smith  |
| Memory Bells Director:        | Peggy Watkins  |
| Moment For All Ages:          |  |

#### **Today: 12/03/23** **8:30 / 11:00**

#### **Next Week: 12/10/23** **8:30 / 11:00**

|                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| Nursery Aide:       | Open / Open          |
| Children's Worship: | TBD                  |
| Roamers             | Paulette Bryan       |
| Counters:           | Dick & Caryl Sturhke |

|                                     |
|-------------------------------------|
| Open / Open                         |
| TBD                                 |
| Nancy Renk-Wise<br>& Paulette Bryan |

|                  |                          |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| Lay Reader: 8:30 | <b>Volunteers Needed</b> |
| Lay Reader 11:00 | TBD                      |
| Ushers: 8:30     | Alison & Gene Aucott     |

|                          |
|--------------------------|
| <b>Volunteers Needed</b> |
| TBD                      |
| Joan Saller              |

|                |                      |
|----------------|----------------------|
| Ushers: 11:00  | Linda & Virgil Brown |
| Greeter: 8:30  | Kim O'Neill          |
| Greeter: 11:00 | Fran Miller          |

|                    |
|--------------------|
| & Fred Sullivan    |
| Tom & Cindy Hoover |
| Karen Hruz         |
| Joyce Lewis        |

***Would you like to be a Sunday Morning Servant? We would welcome your participation as an usher, greeter, lay reader, acolyte (children grade 3 and above), nursery attendant, Children's Worship leader, or Sunday School teacher. If you have an interest in serving in any capacity on Sunday mornings, please contact April Spencer in the church office at 610-869-9334 or [office@westgroveumc.org](mailto:office@westgroveumc.org) for more information.***