



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 31, 2023 — First Sunday After Christmas

11:00 a.m. Worship

Welcome and Ministry Opportunities

Pastor Tim

Prelude

***Call to Worship** (Based on Isaiah 61:10-62:3)

Leader: I will greatly rejoice in the Lord! My whole being shall exult in my God!

People: For he has clothed me with garments of salvation! Covered us with the robe of righteousness!

Leader: For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sow to spring up,

People: So the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations!

Leader: For His kingdom's sake, we will not keep silent! And for the community's sake we will not rest!

People: We will be called by new names, that the heart of the Lord will give us!

Leader: Our hearts and lives are like a crown on God's head, pointing to His sovereignty for all to see!

People: So for the sake of the family of faith we will not keep silent! We will share his grace in all the parts of our lives!

***Opening Hymn**

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

UMH No. 229

***Opening Prayer (in unison)**

Faithful Lord, open Your ears to us and our prayers, and come close and whisper your answer. There are so many inconsistencies and contradictions in our lives, that cause so much chaos, fracture, and division and conflict. Where we are disoriented bring us back to Your wholeness, a peace that brings us closer with You. Help us resonate with You and who You have made us to be, made in Your image. May we give fully of ourselves in ways that help us serve You first. As we draw closer, help us understand and perceive ourselves as Your own, made to be as generous in our lives with our hearts, as You have been with us. Where there have been accidents and disappointments, where there is grief, fear, and pain, heal and renew us. May the light of Christ shine within us, and then from us. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

Moment for All Ages

Xavier Feliciano

Scripture

Luke 2:22-40

Pastor Tim

Meditation

"Grace Bestows Our Identity"

Pastor Tim

Scripture	Isaiah 9:2-4, 6-7	Dick Sturhke
Anthem	“Sing We Now of Christmas” Music based on the French carol “Noel Nouvelet” Arranged by Mark Hayes	Chancel Choir
Passing of the Peace		Pastor Tim
Hymn of Response	“Freely, Freely”	UMH No. 389
Joys and Concerns		Pastor Jim
Pastoral Prayer		Pastor Jim
Invitation to Offering		Pastor Jim
Offertory		
Consecration of Offering		Pastor Jim
Closing Hymn	“I Know Whom I Have Believed”	UMH No. 714
A Parting Blessing (in unison)		Dick Sturhke

**The Maker’s blessing be yours, on your road, on your journey,
guiding you, cherishing you.**

**The Son’s blessing be yours, wine and water, bread and stories
Feeding you, challenging you.**

**The Spirit’s blessing be yours. Wind and fire, joy and wisdom.
Comforting you, disturbing you.**

**The angel’s blessing be yours. On your house, on your living.
Guarding you, encouraging you.**

**God’s blessing be ours—the blessing of pilgrims.
All the nights and days of our journey home.**

Postlude

Please join us in the Lobby/Narthex for a time of fellowship with Pastor Tim as we wish him well on his journey into retirement..

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

8:30 a.m. Worship

Ministry Opportunities

Pastor Tim

*Call to Worship (In Unison) Based on Isaiah 61:10-62:3)

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People: For he has clothed me with garments of salvation! Covered us with the robe of righteousness!

Leader: For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown to spring up,

People: So the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations!

Leader: For His kingdom's sake, we will not keep silent! And for the community's sake we will not rest!

People: We will be called by new names, that the heart of the Lord will give us!

Leader: Our hearts and lives are like a crown on God's head, pointing to His sovereignty for all to see!

People: So for the sake of the family of faith we will not keep silent! We will share his grace in all the parts of our lives!

*Opening Hymn

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

UMH No. 229

*Opening Prayer (Page 2)

Pastor Tim

Scripture (Page 5)

Luke 2:22-40

Pastor Tim

Meditation

"Grace Bestows Our Identity"

Pastor Tim

Scripture (Page 5)

Isaiah 9:2-4, 6-7

Pastor Jim

Passing of the Peace

Pastor Jim

Hymn

"Freely, Freely"

UMH No. 389

Joys and Concerns

Pastor Jim

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Jim

Invitation to Offering

Pastor Jim

Offertory

Consecration of Offering

Pastor Jim

Closing Hymn

"I Know Whom I Have Believed"

UMH No. 714

A Parting Blessing (in unison) (Page 3)

Dick Stuhrke

*Please join us in the Lobby/Narthex for a time of fellowship with Pastor Tim as we wish him well on his journey into retirement.. *Please stand as you are able* **Bold Print = Say in unison**

Scripture Lesson: Luke 2:22-40

Jesus Is Named

²¹ When the eighth day came, it was time to circumcise the child, [e] and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

Jesus Is Presented in the Temple

²² When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), ²⁴ and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.” ²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. ²⁷ Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ²⁹ “Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word, ³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹ which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³² a light for revelation to the gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.” ³³ And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵ so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul, too.” ³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸ At that moment she came and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. The Return to Nazareth ³⁹ When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰ The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom, and the favor of God was upon him.

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

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. ³ You have multiplied exultation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴ For 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. ⁶ For 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. ⁷ Great 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.

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 for your gift. 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".

FAREWELL PASTOR TIM: Please join us in the narthex for refreshments and fellowship with Pastor Tim. Today is Tim's last Sunday as pastor of WGUMC. Take this opportunity to wish him well on his journey into retirement. Thank you and God Speed, Pastor Tim.

WGUMC YEARLY GIVING ENVELOPES: Our giving envelopes have arrived and are located in the narthex. Stop by and pick yours up. If you don't receive envelopes and would like to OR if you no longer need giving envelopes please contact Janice Bowers. Text or call Janice Bowers at 484-888-6821 or email her at pastorjaniceb@gmail.com.

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*** 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

SERVANTS IN MINISTRY ON SUNDAY MORNING

Sunday Morning Servants

Digital Audio: 8:30	Aiden Seltzer
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 Rev. S. James Mundell
Music Director:	Betsy Smith
Memory Bells Director:	Peggy Watkins
Moment For All Ages:	Xavier Feliciano

Today: 12/31/23 **8:30 / 11:00**

Next Week: 01/07/23 **8:30 / 11:00**

Nursery Aide:	Open / Open	Open / Open
Children's Worship:	TBD	TBD
Roamers		Amy Castaldi
Counters:	Len & Ruth Kuch	Dick & Caryl Stuhrke
Lay Reader: 8:30	Volunteers Needed	Volunteers Needed
Lay Reader 11:00	Dick Stuhrke	TBD
Ushers: 8:30	Kim O'Neill & Fred Sullivan	Amy & Mark Simmonds
Ushers: 11:00	Fran Miller & Joyce Lewis	Tom & Cindy Hoover
Greeter: 8:30	Karen Hruz	Joan Saller
Greeter: 11:00	Dick Stuhrke	Esther Culbertson

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 for more information.

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.

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)
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 24, 2023

General Offering: \$2,945.00

Building Maintenance Fund: \$70.00

Attendance: In-Person and You Tube

8:30: 30 11:00: 57 7:00: 42 9:00: 50

**No Food Pantry this week: Food Pantry
will resume with it's normal schedule on
January 3rd. Donations are appreciated.**