



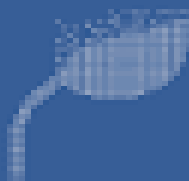
West Grove United Methodist Church

OPEN • GROW • SERVE

Preaching today: Rev. Janice L. Bowers
300 North Guernsey Road
West Grove, PA 19390
www.westgroveumc.org
610-869-9334

"If we love each
other, God lives in us,
and his love is
brought to full
expression in us"

1 John 4:12



April 28, 2024
Fifth Sunday of Easter

11:00 AM. WORSHIP SERVICE

WELCOME AND GREETING		Pastor Janice
MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES		Cindy Haley
PRELUDE		Betsy Smith
-Please quiet and center yourselves for worship during this time-		
*CALL TO WORSHIP (Bold in unison)		Jace Hepler
As members of Christ's tree of life, we are connected, in love, to God.		
As members of Christ's tree of life, we are connected, in love, to one another.		
As members of Christ's tree of life, we strengthen our connection through worship.		
*OPENING SONG	"Hallelujah (Your Love is Amazing)"	PraiseWorks
*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST		Pastor Janice
MORNING PRAYER (In Unison)		Jace Hepler
Loving God, send your Spirit among us now.		
Bind us to you in love this day,		
that we may worship in unity and friendship.		
Bind us to you in love this hour,		
that we may be strengthened		
to bring abundant love to your world.		
In love and gratitude, we pray. Amen.		
PRAYER OF CONFESSION		Pastor Janice
WORDS OF ASSURANCE		Pastor Janice
MOMENTS FOR ALL AGES	"God is Love"	Pastor Janice
(The children may exit the service to Room 12 following Moments for all ages)		
FIRST SCRIPTURE READING (pg. 5)	Acts 8: 26—40	Jace Hepler
SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON (pg. 5)	1 John 4: 7—21	Jace Hepler

ANTHEM	“Beloved, Let Us Love One Another” Based on 1 John 4: 7-8, Music by Pepper Choplin	Chancel Choir
*GOSPEL LESSON (pg. 6)	John 15: 1—8	Pastor Janice
This is the Word of God for the People of God.		
Thanks be to God.		
MESSAGE:	“God Is Love”	Pastor Janice
*HYMN OF RESPONSE	“What Wondrous Love is This”	UMH No. 292
MOMENT OF IMPACT	“United Methodist Women”	Cindy Haley
CELEBRATIONS & CONCERNS		Pastor Jim
PASTORAL PRAYER		Pastor Jim
MOMENT OF SILENCE	for those things on our hearts, and not spoken out loud.	
THE LORD’S PRAYER		Pastor Jim
INVITATION TO THE OFFERING		Pastor Jim
OFFERTORY	“More Love, More Power”	PraiseWorks
OFFERTORY PRAYER		Pastor Jim
*CLOSING SONG	“They’ll Know We Are Christian By Our Love”	PraiseWorks
BENEDICTION		Pastor Janice
Go in peace to love and serve as children of God.		
POSTLUDE		Betsy Smith

*** STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE.**

Please join us in the Lobby/Narthex for a time of fellowship.

Please stand as you are able* **BOLD PRINT = SAY IN UNISON.

7:30 AM. WORSHIP SERVICE

WELCOME AND GREETING

Pastor Janice

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Bold in unison)

Pastor Janice

As members of Christ's tree of life,
we are connected, in love, to God.

As members of Christ's tree of life,
we are connected, in love, to one another.

As members of Christ's tree of life,
we strengthen our connection through worship.

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Pastor Janice

MORNING PRAYER (In Unison)

Pastor Janice

Loving God, send your Spirit among us now.

**Bind us to you in love this day,
that we may worship in unity and friendship.**

Bind us to you in love this hour,

**that we may be strengthened
to bring abundant love to your world.**

In love and gratitude, we pray. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor Janice

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Pastor Janice

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING (pg. 5) Acts 8: 26—40

Pastor Janice

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING (pg. 5) 1 John 4: 7—21

Pastor Janice

***GOSPEL LESSON** (pg. 6) John 15: 1—8

Pastor Janice

This is the Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE:

“God Is Love”

Pastor Janice

CELEBRATIONS & CONCERNS

Pastor Janice

PASTORAL PRAYER

Pastor Janice

MOMENT OF SILENCE for those things on our hearts, and not spoken out loud.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor Janice

*BENEDICTION

Pastor Janice

*** STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE.**

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: ACTS 8: 26—40

²⁶ Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷ So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸ and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹ Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” ³⁰ So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” ³¹ He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³² Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: “Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. ³³ In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.” ³⁴ The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” ³⁵ Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶ As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” ³⁸ He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹ When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰ But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: 1 JOHN 4:7-21

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹ God’s love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. ¹³ By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴ And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵ God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶ So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷ Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸ There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹ We love because he first loved us. ²⁰ Those who say, “I love God,” and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹ The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

GOSPEL LESSON: JOHN 15: 1—8

¹⁵ “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ² He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³ You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵ I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷ If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

This is the Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

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 from 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. Please honor us by signing the Friendship Pad and we encourage you to join us again. For those who need them, there are hearing aids available at the sound booth. Please feel free to ask for them.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN'S SPRING RUMMAGE SALE: Friday, May 3rd and Saturday, May 4th. Start rummaging through your closets and basement for the annual Spring Rummage Sale. Donations will be accepted beginning after the 11:00 am. service on Sunday, April 28th. Volunteers to help set up, work and break down the sale are always welcomed.

WGUM CHURCH BONFIRE: Come one, come all to a WGUMC Bonfire on May 10th, from 6—8 pm. Come enjoy the music, smores, BBQ and more. Hosted by Xavier and our Youth Group.



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN'S TEA: You are invited to join us for an afternoon tea and light desserts on Sunday, May 19th, from 3:00 to 5:00 pm in the church lobby and sanctuary. Following a time of refreshments and fellowship, we are excited to welcome an amazing storyteller, Diane Albertson. Diane will entertain us with a whimsical story that incorporates various Mother Goose characters, along with the stories of Eve, Sarah, Rebecca, Rachael, Rahab and Mary. All women of the church, your family, friends and loved ones are invited for an enjoyable afternoon.



RAP: Join us on Friday, May 10th, at noon in the church sanctuary as we gather for a potluck luncheon to celebrate the end of this program year. We are excited to welcome back the Providence Brass Band to entertain us with their musical talents. Bring your favorite luncheon dish to share with others. Desserts and beverages will be provided. We truly thank everyone who helps make our monthly gatherings possible. We continue to meet on the second Friday each month from September through May.

Retired Active People



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: Round up your kids and grand kids and get ready to dive into the fun from July 15th-19th. Call Xavier for all the details at 610-612-7377, or email him at Childyouthdirector@westgroveumc.org, or call the church office at 610-869-9334, or email us at office@westgroveumc.org.

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY



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

Email **Susan Paisley** at sbrintonpais1@verizon.net or call 610-529-8699. Or email: **April Spencer** at office@westgroveumc.org or 610-869-9334.

Your request will be shared with the prayer chain, and if you would like, it will be noted below in the bulletin Prayer List. Requests will remain on the prayer chain for 4 weeks unless otherwise requested or updated.

Do YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW NEED PRAYER?

IN NEED OF PRAYER:

Bob Beck, Linda Shiplet
Renee Bergstrom
Chris Bruno
Sandee C (Jim Mundell)
Family of Dan DePaul (Jackson)
Bill Fili, Jr. (Bratton)
Donna Fackler
Richard Heacock
Brody Howard, Nancy & Phil Howard
Michele Johnson (Spencer)
Tom Kuch (Kuchs)
Joyce Lewis
The Family of Len Marten (K. Smith)

Jay Miller, Fran Miller
The Family of Karen Moore
Tim Mullen
Betty Mundell
Vivian Paisley
The Family of Linda Myers, Betsy Smith
Sam Reyburn (Shiplet)
Steve Scheufele (Kuch's)
Levi Schrum (Carmichael)
Mark Sharrat (P. Mullen)
Connie & Jobe Simcox
Linda Shiplet
Jeannie Sullivan
Josephine Tena
Jill Williams (Fran Miller)
Kay Yates



Nathaniel Howard,
Philippines
(Wayne & Pam)
Brian Kubo—Washington
(Mullen)
Chris Weidman—Idaho
(Miller)
Dalton Wolfe-U.S. Marine
Corps
Drew Zumpino—USA
(Beauchamp)

Prayer Requests or Prayer Notes:

THIS WEEK: April 28 through May 5, 2024

Hours for the Church Office: Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
The office is also open before and after the posted times. Call April for an appointment.
(office@westgroveumc.org or 610-869-9334)

Fifth Sunday of Sunday

Sunday:	7:30 am.	Worship Service
	9:45—10:45 am.	Sunday School for all ages
	11:00 am.	Worship Service
Monday:	8:00 am.—4:00 pm.	Rummage Sale Set Up (Sanctuary & Narthex)
	9:00 am.—12:00 pm.	CMO (Rms. 9,13,14,15,16 & Sanctuary)
	12:00—1:00 pm.	CMO Lunch Bunch
Tuesday:	8:00 am.—4:00 pm.	Rummage Sale Set Up (Sanctuary & Narthex)
	9:00 am. —12:00 pm.	CMO (Rms. 9, 3,14,15,16 & Sanctuary)
Wednesday:	8:00 am.—4:00 pm.	Rummage Sale Set Up (Sanctuary & Narthex)
	9:00 am.—12:00 pm.	CMO (Rms. 9,13,14,15,16 & Sanctuary)
	10:00—11:00 am.	Full Staff Meeting (Rm. #1)
	5:00—6:00 pm.	Food Pantry
	6:00—7:30 pm.	Girl Scouts (Rms 8 & 10)
Thursday:	8:00 am.—4:00 pm.	Rummage Sale Set Up (Sanctuary & Narthex)
	9:00 am.—12:00 pm.	CMO (Rms. 9,13,14,15,16)
	1:00—2:00 pm.	Food Pantry
	4:30—6:00 pm.	Memory Bells (Sanctuary)
	6:00—8:45 pm.	Girl Scouts Trp. #4251 & 4567 (Rm # 8, 10)
	6:45 pm.—8:00 pm.	Choir Rehearsal (Rm. #6)
	7:00 pm.—8:30 pm.	Girl Scouts Trp. # 41377 (Rms. 8 & 10)
Friday:	9:00 am.—2:00 pm.	Rummage Sale (Sanctuary, Narthex)
	9:00 am.—12:00 pm.	CMO (Rms. 9,13,14,15,16)
Saturday:	9:00 am.—12:00 pm.	Rummage Sale (Sanctuary, Narthex)
	10:00 am.-11:30 am.	Daily Reflections (Rm. # 8- 10)

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Sunday:	7:30 am.	Worship Service
	9:45—10:45 am.	Sunday School for all Ages
	11:00 am.	Worship Service

SERVANTS IN MINISTRY ON SUNDAY MORNING

Sunday Morning Servants

Sound Booth : Aiden Steltzer
Projection: Kaiti Beauchamp
Officiating: Rev. Janice Bowers & Rev. Jim Mundell
Music Director: Betsy Smith
Memory Bells Director: Lavenia Civitella
Moment For All Ages/Youth Director: Xavier Feliciano

Today: 04/28/24

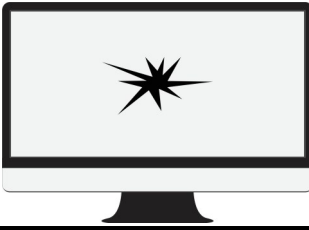
Next Week: 05/05/24

Nursery Aide:	Open / Open	Open / Open
Roamers	Cindy Haley	Priscilla Barkman
Counters:	Dick & Caryl Sturhke	Dick & Caryl Sturhke
Lay Reader:	Jace Hepler	Carol McGinley
Ushers:	Virgil & Linda Brown	Tom & Cindy Hoover
Greeter:	Paulette Bryan	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.



Please forgive our blank monitors in the narthex as we are working on updating their information.

**God's Faithfulness ~
Your Stewardship**

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

Report from April 21, 2024

General Offering: \$3,010.00

Building Maintenance Fund: \$275.00

Attendance:

7:30: 5 & 11:00: 56

**Food Pantry: 112 families on 4/24 &
4/25 Food donations are appreciated.**

* * * SERMON NOTES * * *