



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



We Share Christ

HOW SHALL WE LOVE WORSHIP SERIES

May 12, 2024
Seventh Sunday of Easter

11:00 AM. WORSHIP SERVICE

WELCOME AND GREETING

Pastor Janice

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Cindy Haley

PRELUDE

Debbie Schneider

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Susan Paisley

Easter people, raise your voices, for you belong to the Risen Christ!

We belong to Christ, and so we share in Christ together.

Just as we share in Christ together, so we are called to share Christ with the world.

We share Christ by proclaiming the good news of God's love to the world.

How will you share God's love with the world?

By loving, respecting, and honoring our neighbors, especially those the world neglects, overlooks, and ignores.

Easter people, you belong to the Risen Christ!

Because we belong to Christ, we will share Christ's love and belonging everywhere we go.

*HYMN

"All, Glory, Laud, and Honor"

UMH No. 280

MOTHER'S DAY RECOGNITION

MORNING PRAYER (In Unison)

Susan Paisley

God of all creation who called every being into life who is mindful of humankind in all its diversity who embodies us with dignity, granting different gifts and talents to shape life in this world we ask for your Spirit to unite us where we face lack of understanding and disunity in our churches, in our communities, in our countries. And in silence, we lay before you the burdens of our hearts. (Silence)

We ask for your Spirit to unite us in the face of the conflicts, hatred, and violation of life experienced in so many regions of the earth and in silence, we bring to you the pain of the victims. (Silence)

We ask for your Spirit to unite us wherever fear prevents us from caring for our neighbor, from meeting people of different ethnicities, cultures, and faith communities with respect and in silence, we bring to you the brokenness of human relationships. (Silence)

God of all creation, in Christ, we are reconciled, and so we ask for your uniting Spirit to help us to overcome all our divisions that we may live in peace. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor Janice

Holy God, we ask for your help, your power, your Spirit, so that we can amend our lives and grow more each day into the image of Christ. We confess that we fear what is different. We confess that it's easier to lock the doors of our community than to receive those who don't look like we look, love like we love, or vote the way we vote. We confess that we have not lived out your call to share in abundant life and unconditional love. We believe that you have the power to turn us around to a more inclusive way of living, so we ask you to do that.

We ask you to give us the courage to change. We ask that you give us the energy, intelligence, imagination, and love to be your people in all we say and do. Amen.

MOMENTS FOR ALL AGES “I’m So Happy To See You” John 15:17 Pastor Janice
(The children may exit the service to Room 12 following Moments for all ages))

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING (pg. 5) Acts: 1:15-17, 21-26, Psalm 1 Susan Paisley

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON (pg. 5) 1 John 5: 9-13 Susan Paisley

***GOSPEL LESSON** (pg. 5) John 17: 6-19 Pastor Janice
This is the Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM “United in His Love” Chancel Choir
Words and Music by Cindy Berry

MESSAGE “We Share Christ” Pastor Janice

***CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS** Pastor Janice

PASTORAL PRAYER Pastor Janice

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

LORDS PRAYER Pastor Janice

Our Father, who art in Heaven Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, they will be done, On earth as it is in heaven Give us this day our daily bread, And forgive us our trespasses As we forgive those who trespass against us And lead us not into temptation But deliver us from evil For thine is the kingdom, and the power, And the glory forever, AMEN

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING Pastor Janice

OFFERTORY “What a Friend We Have in Jesus” UMH No. 526
Debbie Scheider

OFFERTORY PRAYER Pastor Janice

Compassionate Creator, in our communal life, may our actions, love, and giving reflect Christ’s presence within us. Help us live in a way that displays Christ’s life in us, showcasing love, respect, and hospitality. As we share and give, may it reflect not only on us but also glorify Jesus. Guide us in honoring one another and celebrating our commitments as part of our faith. In gratitude, abundance, and equity, we present these offerings, believing that sharing Christ is the most loving act. In the name of Jesus, our rock and redeemer, we pray. Amen

***CLOSING SONG** “To God Be the Glory” UMH No. 98

BENEDICTION Pastor Janice

POSTLUDE Debbie Scheider

*** 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

Pastor Janice

Easter people, raise your voices, for you belong to the Risen Christ!

We belong to Christ, and so we share in Christ together.

Just as we share in Christ together, so we are called to share Christ with the world.

We share Christ by proclaiming the good news of God's love to the world.

How will you share God's love with the world?

By loving, respecting, and honoring our neighbors, especially those the world neglects, overlooks, and ignores.

Easter people, you belong to the Risen Christ!

Because we belong to Christ, we will share Christ's love and belonging everywhere we go.

MORNING PRAYER (In Unison)

Pastor Janice

God of all creation who called every being into life who is mindful of humankind in all its diversity who embodies us with dignity, granting different gifts and talents to shape life in this world we ask for your Spirit to unite us where we face lack of understanding and disunity in our churches, in our communities, in our countries. And in silence, we lay before you the burdens of our hearts. (Silence)

We ask for your Spirit to unite us in the face of the conflicts, hatred, and violation of life experienced in so many regions of the earth and in silence, we bring to you the pain of the victims. (Silence)

We ask for your Spirit to unite us wherever fear prevents us from caring for our neighbor, from meeting people of different ethnicities, cultures, and faith communities with respect and in silence, we bring to you the brokenness of human relationships. (Silence)

God of all creation, in Christ, we are reconciled, and so we ask for your uniting Spirit to help us to overcome all our divisions that we may live in peace. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING (pg. 5)

Acts 10:44-48

Pastor Janice

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON (pg. 5)

1 John 5:1-6

Pastor Janice

*GOSPEL LESSON (pg. 5)

John 15:9-17

Pastor Janice

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

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

"We Share Christ"

Pastor Janice

PASTORAL PRAYER

Pastor Janice

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

CLOSING PASTORAL PRAYER

Pastor Janice

*BENEDICTION

Pastor Janice

* **STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE.**

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

¹⁵ In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, ¹⁶ “Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus— ¹⁷ for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.” ²¹ So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²² beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.” ²³ So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴ Then they prayed and said, “Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵ to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” ²⁶ And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

PSALM 1

¹ Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers; ² but their delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law they meditate day and night. ³ They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper. ⁴ The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. ⁵ Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; ⁶ for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: 1 JOHN 5: 9-13

⁹ If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. ¹⁰ Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. ¹¹ And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹² Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. ¹³ I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

GOSPEL LESSON: JOHN 17: 6-19

⁶ “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸ for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹ I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹ And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. ¹² While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³ But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. ¹⁴ I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵ I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶ They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁷ Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸ As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

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.

CHURCH ACCESS: If you are a leader of a group that meets regularly at WGUMC and need access to the church (a key) please contact the church office at 610-869-9334 or email April at office@westgroveumc.org

RESCHEDULED WGUM CHURCH BONFIRE: Due to the weather we have rescheduled our Bonfire to May 17th, from 5:30—7:30 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.



EPGC RESULTS MEETING: We will be meeting as a congregation on Friday, May 17th to review Annual Conference legislation that we need your input on before attending May 21st-23rd. We can also discuss questions you may have around the General Conference. Our delegates are Susan Paisley and Cindy Haley. We will be joined by New London UMC who will independently decide on how their congregation will vote. Their lay delegate is Stewart Gantt, CLM. See pg, 7.

PATRICIAL HEIST MEMORIAL SERVICE: May 18th at 10:00 am. Those wishing to contribute by bringing a homemade dish for Pat's Memorial luncheon please contact Linda Shiple (610-613-5899), Pastor Janice at pastorjaniceb@gmail.com or the church office at (610-869-9334) or office@westgroveumc.org

YOUTH GROUP: Join Xavier on Thursday nights between 6:00 and 7:00 pm. for a "youthful" good time.

MOVIE NIGHT: May 31st from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. Pop Corn, beverages, and a bon fire. Bring a lawn chair or beach blanket and watch "Evan Almighty" outside under the stars.

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.

Key Decisions Made at General Conference

Regionalization: This seeks to create a more contextual church by creating the U.S. and each Central Conference across Africa, Europe, and the Philippines into regions where the churches in those regions will shape their ministry contextually. The new regions are: US, Africa, Europe, and the Philippines.

While this passed at the General Conference, because this is a constitutional amendment, ratification will require a $\frac{2}{3}$ aggregate vote of every Annual Conference. This process will most likely take two years. It is not clear yet whether the Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference will vote on this in our May 21-23 Annual Conference or if it will be held off until 2025.

There were concerns about the unfortunate inadequate representation from central conferences due to travel and visa challenges. The amendment would have passed even if all absent delegates had opposed it.

Ban on Gay Clergy Repealed: On April 23rd through May 3rd, 2024, after prayerful and thoughtful conversation in legislative committees, The General Conference (the highest legislative body of The United Methodist Church) deepened and furthered the church's ministry with all people including the LGBTQ+ community. Many of the restrictions date back to action by the General Conference in the early 1980's. The following are the actions taken by this General Conference.

- * Removed the denomination's ban on the ordination of clergy who are "self-avowed practicing homosexuals." This will take effect on May 3rd, 2024 (at the close of the postponed 2020 General Conference).
- * Clarified churches will not be compelled to receive a gay pastor.
- * Permits pastors and local churches to make decisions on conducting same gender weddings.
- * The Council of Bishops are to be inclusive of gender, race, ethnicity, age, people with disabilities, sexual orientation and economic condition in naming representatives to ecumenical organizations.
- * Eliminated the ban on funding the promotion of ministry with and by LGBTQ+ persons.

MEET WITH US FOR AN OPEN DISCUSSION ON THESE DECISIONS

We will be meeting as a congregation on Friday, May 17th to review Annual Conference legislation that we need your input on before attending May 21st-23rd. We can also discuss questions you may have around the General Conference. Our delegates are Susan Paisley and Cindy Haley. We will be joined by New London UMC who will independently decide on how their congregation will vote. Their lay delegate is Stewart Gantt, CLM.

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
Family of Pat Heist
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
Heidi Strebel, (Edel Mullen)
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:

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: (Substitute)	Debbie Schneider
Memory Bells Director:	Lavenia Civitella
Moment For All Ages/Youth Director:	Xavier Feliciano

Today: 05/12/24

Next Week: 05/19/24

Nursery Aide:	Open / Open	Open / Open
Roamers	Paulette Bryan	Maryanne Covington
Counters:	Joan Leaman & Paulette Bryan	Len & Ruth Kuch
Lay Reader:	Susan Paisley	Dick Stuhrke
Ushers:	Dick Stuhrke & Joan Saller	Virgil & Linda Brown
Greeter:	Nancy & Scott Renk-Wise	Joyce Smith

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.

THIS WEEK: May 12 through May 19, 2024

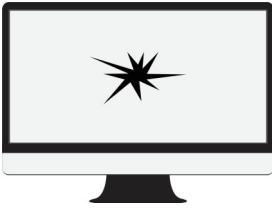
Hours for the Church Office: Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
The office is also open before and after the posted times. Call April for an appointment.
(office@westgroveumc.org or 610-869-9334)

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Sunday:	7:30 am.	Worship Service
	9:45—10:45 am.	Sunday School for all ages
	11:00 am.	Worship Service
Monday:	9:00 am.—12:00 pm.	CMO (Rms. 9,13,14,15,16 & Sanctuary)
	11:00—1:00 pm.	CMO Trike-A-Thon
	6:00—7:30 pm.	Girl Scout Trp. #41366 (Rms, 8 & 10)
Tuesday:	9:00 am. —12:00 pm.	CMO (Rms. 9, 3,14,15,16 & Sanctuary)
	11:00—1:00 pm.	CMO Trike-A-Thon
	6:30—8:00 pm.	Trustees Meeting
Wednesday:	9:00 am.—12:00 pm.	CMO (Rms. 9,13,14,15,16 & Sanctuary)
	5:00—6:00 pm.	Food Pantry
	6:00—7:30 pm.	Girl Scouts Trp. #427 (Rms. 8 & 10)
	7:00—8:30 pm.	Ad. Council
Thursday:	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 pm.—8:45 pm.	Girl Scouts Trp. # 4251 (Rms. 8 & 10)
	6:00—7:00 pm.	Youth Group
	6:45 pm.—8:00 pm.	Choir Rehearsal (Rm. #6)
	7:00—8:30 pm.	Girl Scout Trp. #41377 (Rms. 8 & 10)
Friday:	9:00 am.—12:00 pm.	CMO (Rms. 9,13,14,15,16)
	5:30—7:30 pm.	BonFire (outside)
	6:30—8:00 pm.	Annual Conference Discussion (Sanctuary)
Saturday:	8:30—5:00 pm.	Pat Heist's Memorial Service & Luncheon
	10:00 am.-11:30 am.	Daily Reflections (Rm. # 8- 10)

Pentecost Heritage Sunday

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



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 May 5, 2024

General Offering: \$3,865.00

Building Maintenance Fund: \$170.00

Attendance:

7:30: 11 & 11:00: 60

Food Pantry: 90? families on 5/8 & 5/9

Food donations are appreciated.

*** * * SERMON NOTES * * ***