



**Grove Avenue
United Methodist Church**

501 Grove Avenue
Johnstown, PA 15902
(814) 539-8684

THE MESSENGER

Newsletter of the Grove Avenue United Methodist Church

From the Pastor

"You can't go home again. You can't recover the past."

Thomas Wolfe

**Come as you are
all are welcome!**

Sunday Schedule:

9:00 a.m.

Contemporary Worship Service
Followed by Fellowship Time

9:15 a.m.

Adult Sunday school

10:45 a.m.

Traditional Worship Service/
Children's SS

Staff:

PASTOR: Revs. John & Carol Hickman

LAY LEADER: Eric Stuver

ADMIN. ASST: Jennifer Robertson

PRAISE BAND DIR: Denise Baldwin

NURSERY DIR: Destiny Wallace

CUSTODIAN: Jay Adams

CCW: Natalie Marionneaux

Youth Leader: Ryan Thomas

Office Hours:

Mon.-Thurs. 8:00 am – 1:00 pm

Fri. 8:00 am – 12:00 pm

501 Grove Avenue,
Johnstown, PA 15902
Phone: (814) 539-8684

Email: groveaveumc501@gmail.com

Website: www.groveaveumc.com

For thirty years, I was an active member of Grove Avenue UMC. My sons were baptized and confirmed here; my husband, John, and I were married here. During my years at Grove Avenue, I worked with the kids and youth, cleaned the carpets, chaired the Trustees and the SPRC, taught classes, served as lay leader, became a lay speaker and a certified lay minister. My mother was welcomed and cared for as she was dying with cancer. You rejoiced with me when I met my husband, surrounding us with love and prayers. You provided a safe space where I could grow in faith and use my gifts to the glory of God.

After an absence of twelve years, imagine my surprise when I was asked to return to Grove Avenue. I know that I am not returning to the same church nor am I returning as the same person. Circumstances and time have changed us. I do not want to recover the past but to build on it.

Moxham is not the same as it used to be. Many of the big old houses on our beautiful tree lined streets are inhabited by a transient community. Instead of pride in home ownership, exorbitant rent is charged for rundown properties. We may not be able to bring Moxham back to its former glory but we can establish relationships with our neighbors and share the love of Christ.

Paraphrasing from Isaiah 58:12. *We'll use the old rubble of past lives to build anew, rebuild the foundations from out of our past. We'll be known as those who can fix anything, restore old ruins, rebuild and renovate, make the community livable again.*

It is a major adjustment to be part of a three church charge but it will also be an awesome opportunity to be in ministry with others. There will be a learning curve with some growing pains. Keeping our eyes focused on the mission, we will be able to make a difference in our section of Johnstown as we proclaim the word of God and model the love of Christ. We will reclaim Moxham for Christ, making the community more livable.

John and I are honored and excited to be serving this charge. We look forward to the adventure which is to come!

Blessings.

Pastor Carol

WELCOME TO THE **JULY/AUGUST 2019** ISSUE OF *THE MESSENGER*

We welcome your submissions, your input, your ideas, your opinions, essays, poems, photos, and testimonies.

Please let us know if there is a layperson you would like to salute or a particular ministry or member you would like to highlight.

You may contact the church office with suggestions or concerns about content.

The newsletter is also available online at www.groveaveumc.com.

Please notify the church of:

- address and phone number changes
- births or deaths in your family
- hospital visits
- accomplishments,
- milestones, celebrations

ARTICLES FOR THE SEPTEMBER 2019 ISSUE ARE DUE FRIDAY, AUGUST 23

Articles may be dropped off or emailed to the church office.
Articles received after the deadline are not guaranteed to appear in *The Messenger*.

When you need prayer...



If at any time you have a prayer request, you may do one of the following:

- Call or Email the church office
- Send it through our website at www.groveaveumc.com
- Contact the prayer chain by calling:
John & Veronica James, 266-6907
- Fill out a prayer request card and either hand it into or mail it to the church office. Prayer request cards can be found in the pew racks in the sanctuary.

Don't forget to alert the church office if you or a family member is in the hospital. Let us know if you would like it announced during church services, in the bulletin or newsletters.

Hospitalized?

Hospitals don't contact churches when their parishioners are in the hospital. If you or a family member are hospitalized and would like a visit from the pastor, please contact the church office.

Did You Know...

- If you are unable to attend church, you can give your weekly contributions through our website.
- When you make a purchase on Amazon you can support Grove Avenue United Methodist Church.

For more information, contact our church office.

Reaching people with Christ, one person at a time.

July Birthdays

1 – Sheala Stennett
4 – Ellen Andrews**
4 – Sam Esteban
6 – Lois Graham
7 – Patricia Aikey
8 – Georgia Tiffany
9 – Heather Brice
10 – Janet Andrews
10 – Richard Robertson
11 – Gail Hiner**
11 – Richard Wisor*
12 – Georgia Miller
13 – Madalyn Brown*,**
13 – Wanda Wilson
14 – Jireh Esteban
15 – Alayah Siciliano
20 – Jocelyn Furdella
21 – Eric Robertson, Jr.
21 – Sharon Scaletta
23 – Donna Gindlesperger
29 – Phyllis Pavlick*

July Anniversaries

5 – Jesse and Tammy Stuver
20 – Lloyd and Alice Hughes



**Homebound
**80 or over*

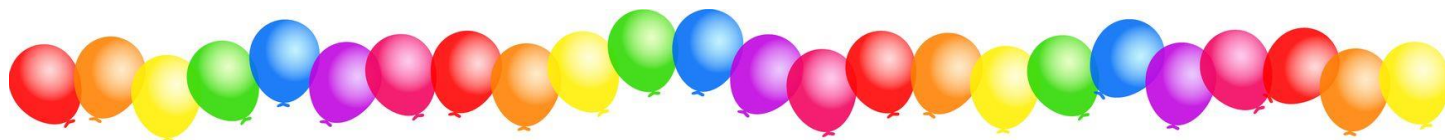
Richard Wisor
619 Grove Ave.
Johnstown, PA 15902

Madalyn Brown
1000 Vista Dr.
Davidsville, PA 15928

Phyllis Pavlick
143 Held Ln., Apt. 1
Johnstown, PA 15902

Ellen Andrews
710 Ocala Ave.
Johnstown, PA 15902

Gail Hiner
175 Crestview Dr.
Davidsville, PA 15928



Serving Grove Avenue in July

Ushers

Dennis Yeager
Merilee Cook
Jim Cook
Richard Robertson



Scripture Readers

Contemporary Service
7 – Lois Graham
14 – David Graham
21 – Karen Hohman
28 – Tom Charette

Traditional Service
7 – Gail Hiner
14 – Heather Brice
21 – Rev. Deb Groeger
28 – Bill Brice

July Scriptures

Sunday, July 7

Scriptures: Psalm 30
Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20
Sermon Title: Go! Get Out of Here

Sunday, July 14

Pastor John preaching

Sunday, July 21

Scriptures: Colossians 1:15-28
Luke 10: 38-42
Sermon Title: Good Better Best

Sunday, July 28

Scriptures: Psalm 85
Luke 11:1-13
Sermon Title: Praying with Jesus

Reaching people with Christ, one person at a time.

August Birthdays

2 – Tom Charette
6 – Lisa Rose
7 – Lilly Hagens
12 – Shaddai Esteban
15 – Justice Petak
17 – Brayden Stevensonm
19 – Chuck Beam*,**
19 – Darwin Gindlesperger
19 – Suzannah Mayer
20 – Laurel Furdella
20 – Georgia Yeager
21 – Jane Wertz*
24 – David Allison
24 – Chuck Kmecak
25 – Kimberly Fox
25 – Veronica James
29 – Eric Stuver



**Homebound
**80 or over*

Chuck Beam
1432 Solomon Sr.
Johnstown, PA 15902

Jane Wertz
Lutheran Home of Johnstown
807 Goucher St.
Johnstown, PA 15905

August Anniversaries

2 – Jim and Karen Hohman
10 – Eric and Eileen Stuver
28 – John and Ruth Anne Hollis
28 – Pablo and Heather Escontrias
31 – David and Lois Graham



Serving Grove Avenue in August

Ushers

Brenda Mills
Kim Fox
Rebecca Bracken
Bill Zolbe



Scripture Readers

Contemporary Service

4 – Lois Graham
11 – David Graham
18 – Karen Hohman
25 – Tom Charette

Traditional Service

4 – TBD
11 – TBD
18 – TBD
25 – TBD

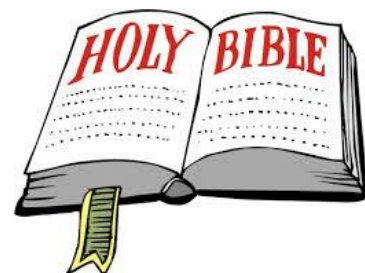
August Scriptures

Sunday, August 4
Scriptures: TBD

Sunday, August 11
Scriptures: TBD

Sunday, August 18
Scripture: TBD

Sunday, August 25
Scripture: TBD



Reaching people with Christ, one person at a time.

News Around the Pews

Our Sympathies

Our sympathies go to Patty Hagerich and family on the death of her mother, Isabelle Coltman, who passed away peacefully at the age of 95.

For Your Information

Blough/Robinson Scholarships

Applications are due in the church office **Friday, August 30**. First time applicants can pick up an application from the church office. A copy of your semester grades should be provided as soon as they are available. Scholarships are rewarded to members of Grove Avenue UMC who are attending higher education classes regardless of their need or income.

Office Closed

The office will be closed **July 4th and 5th** for the Fourth of July holiday

Congratulations

On June 30th we recognized our members who have been part of our church family for 50 years. Congratulations to:

Lynn Chornick
Jan Furdella
Natalie Hudec
Ronald Hudec
Pamela Lock
Susan Mayer

You have reached a milestone in your life. Thank you for all you have done and will do in the future.

Library Update

The Johnstown District Library has been awarded a \$1000 grant. An automated system and library supplies will be purchased during the month of July. You will receive more news when the library is getting close to completion.

Meet Our New Custodian

If you have stopped by the church on Tuesdays or Thursdays, you may have seen an unfamiliar face. Jan Adams (Jay) has taken over as our new Custodian/Maintenance Man. Jay is a member of Belmont UMC and works there as their Custodian.

Charge PPRC

Pastor(s) Parish Relations Committee

Three members of Grove Avenue United Methodist Church's PPRC have been selected to serve on the newly formed charge PPRC: Sue Allison, Sue Birchfield and Lois Graham. Lois has been named Chair of the group and Sue Allison is the Secretary. Three members each from Christ United Methodist Church and Homestead Ave. United Methodist Church also comprise the committee.

We invite you to contact Lois, Sue or Sue if you have any questions, concerns, solutions, or praises regarding the Charge. All correspondence must be signed to be reviewed. It is not appropriate to bother Pastors Carol and John with any issues other than ministerial concerns.

Some news of which you may be interested:

- Pastor Carol will lead services on the first, third and fourth Sundays; Pastor John will be here on the second Sunday of the month.
- Our service times will not change.
- A joint service with all three churches of our charge will be held the fifth Sunday. Grove Ave. United Methodist Church will host the first service on September 29th. A luncheon for all will follow.
- A name for our Charge will be determined in the near future. We encourage your input! Please contact Lois, Sue or Sue with your ideas. Note: Grove Ave United Methodist Church will not change its name.

We pray for the success of our charge!

Sue Allison (421-1181) susan.allison57@gmail.com
Sue Birchfield (262-7590) suebobbirch@verizon.net
Lois Graham (241-8209) lagraham@atlanticbb.net

Mark Your Calendars

United Methodist Women

All are welcome to the UMW meeting on **Wednesday, July 3 at 1:00 pm**. Bill and Heather Brice will give their tour from Baku and back. Everyone welcome. Come learn the purpose of our mission and enjoy the fellowship. Snacks appreciated

Kidz Korner

In Lieu of Vacation Bible School, Moxham Lutheran Church will be holding Kids Corner for four Thursdays from 3:00-4:00 pm. Kidz Korner started June 20th. The last two dates are July 11 and 18.



Farmer's Market

The Farmer's Market hasn't been doing as well as past years and it is debatable about whether to continue or not. The Robertsons will be at the table through the month of July to see if it picks up any. Sharon Robertson would like to thank everyone who has donated or manned the table all these years. We have been doing it for approximately 10 years and all your support was very much appreciated. We will keep you posted.

Even though our table may not be there, don't forget to stop by and support the farmer's.

Buy Fresh, Buy Local

**Camp Allegheny and Grove Ave
UMC present:**

Moxham Community Christian Day Camp

Camp Allegheny quality programming is coming to your community! Campers will enjoy great activities such as hamster ball, games, crafts, a pony ride, Bible Study, and more! Campers will build meaningful relationships with adults in their community! Campers will learn about God's love for them while having more fun than they've had the rest of their summer!

Watch a video from last year:
<https://vimeo.com/282594378>

Ages: 7-11 years old

Cost: \$2.50/camper for the WHOLE WEEK

Contact & Register: Grove Avenue UMC at (814) 539-8684 or groveaveumc501@gmail.com

Dates: July 29 – August 2

Time: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

The best week of your summer...in Moxham!

Looking Ahead:

On **September 29th at 10:00 am** we will host a joint service with Homestead Ave. and Christ Churches. A covered dish dinner will follow the service. This will officially welcome Pastors John and Carol Hickman.



Reaching people with Christ, one person at a time.

Hope Filled Relationships Quick Update

- ✓ Deb Groeger will be Natalie's direct Supervisor.
- ✓ Would like more lay people for the advisory board.
- ✓ Will meet with Pastors Carol and John about her role in the church and the community.
- ✓ AA meetings have started. Want to reach out to advertise.
- ✓ Resource experts have been added to the Free Store. The first one was Carolyn from UMHS.
- ✓ Was in Louisiana and met with organizations about Hope Filled Relationships and Moxham.
- ✓ Had a booth for Hope Fill Relationships at Annual Conference. Got to meet lots of folks.
- ✓ Johnstown District accepted Natalie's transfer for a Deacon candidate.

Park Ave. Food Pantry

Heather Brice gathered some statistics from the food pantry that I would like to share with you. As you may be aware, our church is a destination, along with Moxham Lutheran Church, for people in need of food to receive a voucher that they then present at Park Ave. UMC Food Pantry.

In 2018, we gave out 346 vouchers. Keep in mind that this is households. Some households may have 5 or 6 people in them. If Moxham Lutheran Church sees the same numbers we do that could mean that the food pantry served 692 households last year.

So far in 2019, we have given out 129 vouchers. Schools are out for the summer and now the kids are home for 3 meals a day instead of 2. Help the food pantry help those parents struggling to put food on the table by donating non-perishables. Bring in your donations and place them in the barrel located in the back of the sanctuary. I would like to give a special thank you to Bob Birchfield who delivers the food to the food pantry.

Park Avenue UMC

IS SPONSORING A BUS TRIP TO SEE "THE MIRACLE OF CHRISTMAS" AT SIGHT AND SOUND

DATE: Thursday, November 7, 2019

COST: \$108.00, includes ticket, bus, bus driver gratuity, lunch will be on your own at Cracker Barrel.

TIME: Leaving from Lodestar parking lot at 8:00 a.m. Seats assigned when paid in full.

Please contact Linda Gindlesperger at (814) 288-1607 ASAP if you are interested or have questions.

Reaching people with Christ, one person at a time.

Happy Father's Day

The General Fund gifts are presented to the glory of God as a Father's tribute:

In Memory Of:

Jim Andrews by Janet Andrews

Our fathers: John Boback and Charles Aikey by David and Patricia Aikey

Our Fathers: John J. Bako, Jr. and Clarence W. Tiffany by John and Donna Bako

Luther Birchfield and Harvey Powers by Bob and Sue Birchfield

Harry D. Ullery and Gerard Charette by Tom and Becky Charette

Joseph Crouse by daughter, Jan Furdella

Our Fathers: Harry Hiner and John Henneke by Bill and Gail Hiner

Vernon E. Smith and Raymond H. Robertson by Richard and Sharon Robertson and family

Thomas Zolbe by Bill Zolbe

In Honor Of:

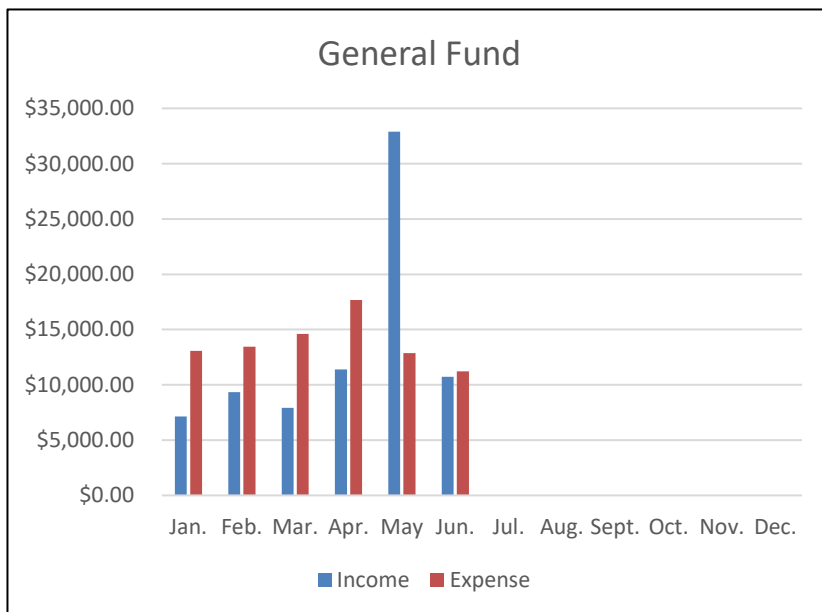
Bob Aikey by Beth Aikey

David Aikey, Husband and father by Patricia Aikey and daughters: Chris, Leigh, Laura, and Karen

Pastor Adam and the men at Grove Avenue by Donna Bako

My husband, John Bako by Donna Bako

Finance Report



Flocked by Flamingos

Have someone flocked for any occasion. Donation for flocking is \$10.00. See Donna Bako (255-2900) to set up a date. All proceeds will benefit the General Fund.

Stuver's Nursery Coupons

Thanks to everyone who purchased or helped sell Stuver's Nursery Coupons. We made a profit of \$510.50.

The chart above shows the income and expenses as of June 24, 2019. In April, we needed to transfer \$25,000 from our Memorial Endowment.

Reaching people with Christ, one person at a time.