



**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

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

**Sunday Schedule:**

**9:00 a.m.**

Contemporary Worship Service/  
Children's SS  
Followed by Fellowship Time

**9:15 a.m.**

Adult Sunday school

**10:45 a.m.**

Traditional Worship Service/  
Children's SS

**Staff:**

**PASTOR:** Revs. Carol & John 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

### ROMANS 5: 1

“Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

I really like this statement: “Know God, Know peace. No God No peace. Peace is what we really desire isn't it. If we had peace then our lives would be so much easier and less stressful, but we have a hard time finding peace---real peace. The above scripture mentions peace and the word justified. Justified with God means we realize we need a savior as we come to God asking for forgiveness and repenting of our sin. Having faith in and believing in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. That is justification in a nutshell. This Scripture tells us that once we have been justified with God we will have peace with God, and once we have peace with God we will know we are forgiven.

Beloved, we cannot get to God on our own or be justified on our own we need a Savior, and that Savior is Jesus do you know Him today? God knew we could not get to Him so Jesus was sent to help us get there. There was a gap between God and me so Jesus spread out His arms on the cross and made a bridge for you and me so we could get to The Lord. We can have peace when we cross that bridge, real peace do you want it? There will always be things to cause disharmony in our lives but God is constant and is the giver of the peace that passes all understanding.

Blessings,  
John Hickman

# WELCOME TO THE OCTOBER 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](http://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 NOVEMBER 2019 ISSUE ARE DUE FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18

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](http://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 the church office.*

*Reaching people with Christ, one person at a time.*

# October Birthdays

2 – Jesse Stuver  
10 – Keith Mayer  
21 – Gia Lee  
23 – Bob Birchfield\*\*  
27 – Tammy Stuver  
30 – Alivia Tucker  
31 – Dave Aikey\*\*  
31 – Jordan Michalides

**\*Homebound  
\*\*80 or over**

Please remember the following members on their birthdays.

**Bob Birchfield**  
1921 Brenlin St.  
Johnstown, PA 15905

**Dave Aikey**  
108 Violet St.  
Johnstown, PA 15905



## Serving Grove Avenue in October

### Ushers

Bill Hiner  
Gail Hiner  
Dave Aikey  
Pat Aikey

### Scripture Readers

#### **Contemporary Service**

6 – Lois Graham  
13 – David Graham  
20 – Karen Hohman  
27 – Tom Charette

#### **Traditional Service**

6 – Bill Brice  
13 – Deb Groeger  
20 – Gail Hiner  
27 – Bob Birchfield

LOVE GROW SERVE



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# News Around the Pews

## Our Sympathies

Our sympathies go to Tom Charette on the passing of his wife, Becky, who passed away September 13<sup>th</sup>.

## New and Improved Sunday School Room

We need to give a big shout out to Donna Bako and Jay Adams, our custodian, for transforming the youth Sunday school room from a “junk room” into a great room for the youth to have their weekly Sunday school lessons.

## Sale of Parsonage

The parsonage has been sold. It should close within 6 weeks. The money received from the sale of the parsonage will go toward church building improvements including the sewage.



## Don't Forget...

### United Methodist Women

UMW meets every first Wednesday of the month at 1:00 pm. They always have guests with a lot of useful information. All are welcome to fellowship and learn about their missions. Snacks appreciated.

### United Methodist Men

UMM meets every Thursday at 9:30 am. Coffee and donuts are available during the first half hour. They watch videos on a variety of Christian related topics and then discuss.

### Bible Studies

You are invited to one of the Charge's Bible Studies. There are two opportunities to participate. If you would like a time of faith building fellowship, please come.

Tuesday evenings at 6:30 pm at Grove. What We Believe. In October we will explore our Wesleyan theological heritage. What makes us Wesleyan? How do United Methodist beliefs differ from other Christian denominations?

Tuesday afternoons at 2 pm at Homestead Avenue UMC. Currently they are delving into the Book of Genesis. Come and grow in faith as we build relationships within the Charge. Everyone is welcomed!

## September Recap

### Moxham Block Party

Thank you to all who helped with the Moxham Block Party. It was a fun time. I think those who volunteered had a great time, too. In case you missed it, Eileen and I were elbow deep on cotton candy.

Thanks again, Natalie Marionneux



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# Mark Your Calendars

## Trustees Flea Market

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 8:00-1 P.M.

### HALF-PRICE SALE:

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 8:00 A.M. – 12 P.M.

Put aside your unwanted treasures and bring them to the church October 7 through October 10 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

We have great success selling old, but useable items. Please remember that there are several items we cannot accept (tires and rims, exercise equipment, hard-backed suitcases, encyclopedias, over-stuffed furniture, large appliances, Reader's Digest condensed books, Non-functioning kitchen appliances, televisions, clothing, desktop computers, laptops and other outdated electronics). If you need help getting items to the church, please call the church office (539-8684). We will need workers throughout the week of October 7.

**WE NEED YOUR TREASURES!**



Please see Pam Kehl or Gail Hiner to set up a time you can spend at task. We hope everyone who was gracious enough to help last year will join us again for a fun-filled day of working together.

## District United Methodist Women

The Johnstown District UMW will have their fall meeting on **October 17<sup>th</sup>** at Summit Chapel UMC, 2142 William Penn Ave., Johnstown 15909. Registration starts at 9:00 am. Natalie Marionneaux will speak on Hope-Filled Relationships.

## Trunk or Treat

October 26<sup>th</sup>

from 2:00-4:00 pm

Grove Ave. will, once again, sponsor Trunk or Treat.

We need volunteers willing to decorate their trunks, SUV cargo areas, or truck beds with a theme idea – fishing, beach, sports, or harvest time, etc. (Please NO SCARY Halloween decorations!)

Bring your decorated vehicle to the church parking lot between 1:00-1:30 pm. for your assigned parking lot space.

Community children will walk through the parking lot, view each vehicle, and collect candy treat bags from each vehicle.

## Trunk or Treat October 26<sup>th</sup>

\_\_\_\_\_ I can decorate my car trunk, truck bed, SUV

\_\_\_\_\_ I can donate candy (individually wrapped pieces)

\_\_\_\_\_ I am willing to help. If needed.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Vehicle: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Please contact the office at 539-8684 by Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup>.



Our tears fall on the heart of God, who dries our tears and binds up our wounds. On November 3, Grove Avenue will celebrate All Saints Sunday at both services as we remember and give thanks for those who have died in the past year. Family or friends are invited to light a candle to honor them and to signify the light of Christ in the midst of darkness. Everyone will have the opportunity to lift up the names of those who have been called home.

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# Hope-Filled Relationships

**MISSION STATEMENT:** Inspiring the hope of Christ and building trusting relationships with the community one person at a time.

**VISION:** Hope-Filled Community

Our tag line – **MOXHAM PROUD**. What we are about: relationships with Christ, with each other – trust, sincere; safe and healthy space, empowering, connection – mutual, ecumenical, community – looking out for each other; walking WITH along the way, encourage, tell the story, collaboration

- ✓ The Free Store marked its 1-year anniversary in July. We celebrated with cake and punch with our neighbors. We have deep gratitude to our faithful and committed volunteers. The store serves a minimum 50 families a week with household goods impacting a minimum of 150 people every week.
  - We have almost 400 names in our database of families that have visited the Free Store.
  - The Free Store has received a \$2500 Poverty Grant from WPAC which will help carry us through the year.
  - We are also bringing in different organizations in to talk about their offerings like UM Human Services, EARN, Goodwill and others.
- ✓ Camp on the Go through Camp Allegheny was a FUN time for 20 of our neighbor children. BIG THANKS to our Grove UMC and Moxham Lutheran folks for this on-going summer partnership.
- ✓ The Moxham Block Party was a big hit. Many thanks to all who volunteered. We ended up being the cotton candy station too... which was its own kind of fun. We also handed out water, juice, Moxham Proud stickers and information sheets. A good time was had by all.
- ✓ We are hoping to have a special sit-down meal for our neighbors between Thanksgiving and Christmas where we serve them and give them a Bible as a gift. Please consider being a table host to share the love of Christ during the Christmas season. Don't worry – Natalie will be reaching out to you soon!!!
- ✓ We have applied for a grant for a community garden which in the long run could lead to many more things than just fresh vegetables!
- ✓ We have also applied for a grant for an Emergency Food Pantry which would include non-perishable items and grocery cards for families in need.
- ✓ We are looking into the feasibility of becoming Cambria County Children's Summer Breakfast and Lunch location. There are over 700 children that live in Moxham. This past summer there was no location in Moxham and there is no doubt that many of our neighborhood children suffered because of that. Let's not let these kids go hungry next summer.
- ✓ More people are learning about us, dropping off clothing as well as making special items like handmade reusable bags, UMCOR school kits. We are meeting more and more organizations and making more and more connections. It is very exciting to see the work of the Holy Spirit bringing people together to be a light in a broken world.
- ✓ Please come visit and meet our neighbors on one of our crazy Thursday afternoons, 2-5pm.
- ✓ In August, Natalie attended License to Preach school at Olmsted Manor for 11 days which is required by WPCA for all elder, deacon and licensed local pastor candidates. In October, she will be attending a conference for the General Board of Global Ministries for all Church and Community Workers across the United States. And, watch out, her sisters, Jane and Lulu, are coming to visit in October; their accents will be a lot thicker than hers; she can translate, if necessary.

LOVE AND BLESSINGS TO ALL!!!

Blessings,  
Natalie

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# Fundraisers

## 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. So far, we raised \$300.00. If you haven't flocked anyone yet, there is still time. Flocking will go on as weather permits.

## Boscov's "Friends Helping Friends"

This year's "Friends Helping Friends" will be **Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup>**. We will have a table set up from 12:00-6:00 pm. Last year we made \$325.00, this year our goal is \$400.00. Help us beat it by selling to your family, friends, and neighbors.

## Gift Card Fundraiser

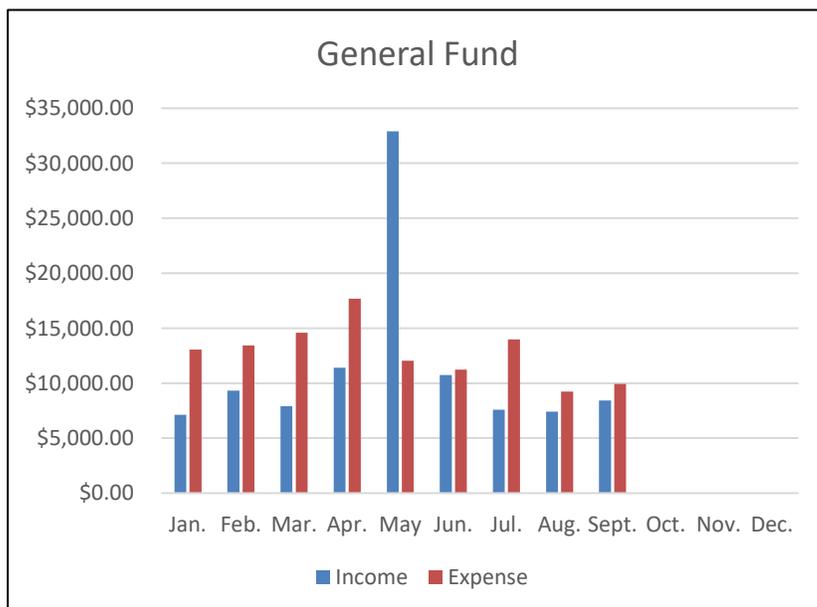
Everybody needs gasoline, groceries, clothing so why not buy a gift card for Giant Eagle, Bi-Lo, Sheetz, Get Go, or Walmart to name a few. Every gift card purchase made through us we get a percentage. There is plenty of restaurant gift cards, too, for those who go out to eat after church. See the church office for an order form. The first order will be put in on October 14<sup>th</sup>.

## Amazon Smile

Make your purchases count, go to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/25-0999187> and Grove Avenue UMC will receive a percentage of the purchase amount. Since 2018 we received \$41.25 from Amazon. Buy a gift card through our fundraising program and we will get a percentage from the gift card purchase plus a percentage from your Amazon percentage.



## Finance Report



The chart shows the income and expenses as of September 30, 2019. In May, we needed to transfer \$25,000 from our Memorial Endowment to the General Fund.

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