



**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 and See!

Think about the best invitation you had ever received. Who made the invitation? Where were you invited? How was the event?

In the first chapter of John, Jesus makes an invitation to the first disciples. The invitation is short and simple and yet powerful and life changing. He said to them, "Come and See."

When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day." (John 1.38)

This invitation is not limited to those who Jesus encountered 2000 years ago. This is an invitation for you and to me. We are invited to come and see, again and again. When we come and see, we are reminded of the life changing gift that Jesus is for each of us. When we come and see, we experience Jesus and his love.

The focus of the church is ministry – making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. In our baptismal vows, we covenant to faithfully participate in the ministries of the Church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness. Will you invite AT LEAST one person this year to come and see? By making this invitation, you are providing the opportunity for your friend or family member to experience God's love and its transformative power. So, who will it be? Remember most people need to be invited 3 or more times before they accept the invitation. Don't give up!

Issuing the invitation is the first step but it doesn't end there. We need to provide a space filled with gracious hospitality. It is one of our most important commitments – welcoming and accepting the people who God places in our lives. It is so simple, but we often look past it. We are invited to be in relationship with others, giving them the gift of our time and presence.

My hope is that our congregation can be the face of God to one another and our community. May we continue to build relationships, grow in faith and affirm of belovedness of our neighbors. May we commit to do this together, as we live into the gift of God's abundant grace.

Blessings,
Pastor Carol

Reaching people with Christ, one person at a time.

**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

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

Office Hours:

Mon.-Thurs. 8:00 am – 1:00 pm

Fri. 8:00 am – 12:00 pm

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Website: www.groveaveumc.com

FEBRUARY 2020

ISSUE OF *THE MESSENGER*

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 MARCH 2020 ISSUE
ARE DUE FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14**
Articles may be dropped off or emailed to the church
office.

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.

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.

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February Birthdays

7 – Karen Hohman
10 – Lauren Sabo
10 – Sarah Armstrong
16 – Linda Allshouse*
18 – Ryan Thomas
19 – Donna McLaughlin**
21 – Kelly Kauffman
23 – Ainsley Stewart
24 – Bill Brice**
27 – Kathy Gindleperger



**Homebound
**80 or over*

Please remember the following members on their birthdays.

Linda Allshouse
Westmont Woods
787 Goucher St.
Johnstown, PA 15905

Donna McLaughlin
202 Melvin St.
Johnstown, PA 15904

Bill Brice
116 Luna Ln.
Johnstown, PA 15904



Serving Grove Avenue in January

Ushers

Bill Hiner
Gail Hiner
Dave Aikey
Pat Aikey

Scripture Readers

Contemporary Service

2 – Lois Graham
9 – David Graham
16 – Karen Hohman
23 – one service

Traditional Service

2 – Wanda Wilson
9 – Deb Groeger
16 – Gail Hiner
23 – Tom Sabo

LOVE GROW SERVE



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News Around the Pews

Altar Flowers

When ordering flowers, please use the form on the bulletin board. This will assist the office and allow the flowers to be an intentional element in the Altar arrangement.



We Need YOU!!

Do you like working with children? Donna Bako is in need of teachers for Children's Sunday School. Sunday School is held during the 9:00 am Contemporary service. If we are able to get enough help, then the teachers and helpers will not miss too many church services.

If interested, contact
Donna Bako.



Mark Your Calendars

United Methodist Women

UMW will meet **February 5th at 1:00 pm**. Come and enjoy the fellowship while learning the purpose of this mission.

One Service

We will have one service on **February 23rd and March 22nd at 9:30**. This is in preparation for going to one service starting Easter Sunday. Please voice your opinions on the services. The Worship committee needs your feedback going forward.

You are Invited

What: Natalie Marionneaux's Mardi Grau Party.

Date: February 23, 2020

Where: Place TBD

Time: After the Worship Service



Lenten Service in the CGH Charge

Ash Wednesday, February 26th at Christ UMC at 7:00 pm

Maundy Thursday, April 9th at Homestead Ave. UMC at 7:00 pm

Good Friday, April 10th at Grove Ave. UMC at 7:00 pm

Easter Sunday Sunrise Service, April 12th at Christ UMC at 7:00 am

Easter Sunday, April 12th each church will have their regular Easter Services. This will be the start of our one service each week.



Fundraisers

Spaghetti Dinner

We will be holding a spaghetti dinner fundraiser on March 7th from 3:00-6:00 pm. Tickets will be \$8.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children under 12. Volunteers and donations of salad, rolls and dessert are needed. If you are able to volunteer or donate, please contact Eileen.



Gobs

Grove Avenue will be selling GOBS at the spaghetti dinner. Eileen Stuver rounded up a group of willing gob makers to help start a gob fundraiser. There will be opportunities to you to help the GOBS squad by buying, selling and making GOBS. Stay tuned for more details.

Finance Report

General Fund Activity for 2020			
Month	Income	Expense	Total
January	\$7,373.45	\$8,672.35	(1,298.90)

Attendance and Giving Report

Month	2020		2019		2018	
	Attendance	Giving	Attendance	Giving	Attendance	Giving
January	160	\$4,244.00	149	\$4,571.00	272	\$8,104.50



Both reports are as of January 22, 2020.

The General Fund report is all that came in for the General Fund.

The Giving report is what came in from the weekly envelopes only.

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