

## Wandering Heart: Figuring Out Faith with Peter

I have said often lately that we are on a journey together this year. This Lent, the journey continues as we are going to walk with Peter, one of Jesus's most famous disciples. We will be utilizing a worship theme created by *A Sanctified Art* that offers us a meaningful path to take in this holy season. As we are uncovering what it means to belong to God, we will also discover what it means to be human, as there is no one who reflected his humanity more than Peter!

This is what the creators of our series say about it--

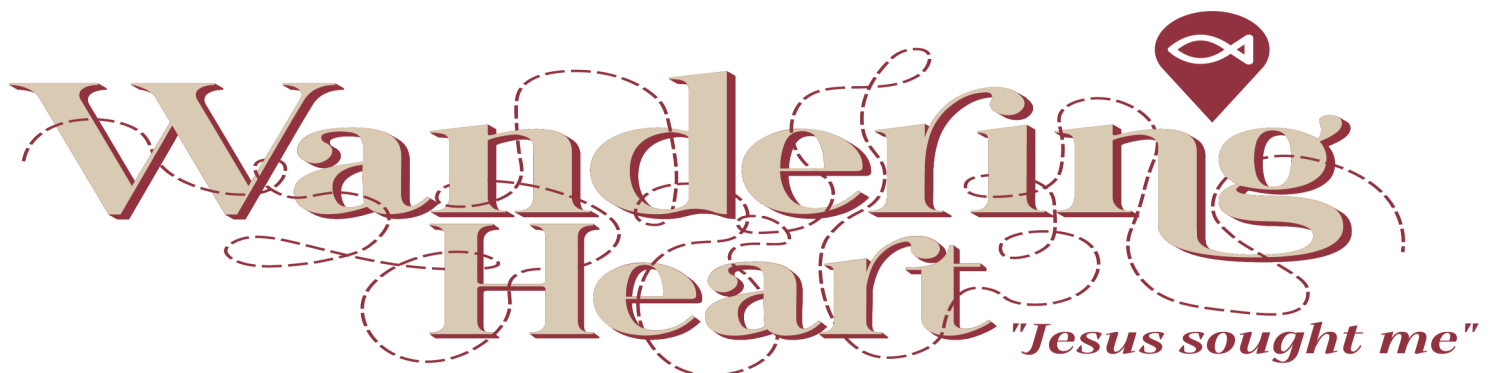
"In Peter, we see a person who is both steadfast and unsteady, a dear friend and a betrayer, a follower and a wanderer. In Peter, we often see ourselves. By following Peter's journey, we watch the story of Jesus unfold through the eyes of a very normal human trying to figure it all out just like us.

As we were studying Peter's faith journey, the words and tune of "Come Thou Fount" came to mind. It's as if Peter himself wrote this song. And so, for each step in Peter's journey, we have selected a phrase from this hymn. As we follow Peter's story, we will sing our way through Lent, binding our wandering hearts to God.

This Lent, we will look for ourselves in the stepping stones of Peter's story. We will reflect on the stages of our own faith journeys as well as who and what has shaped us along the way. As we wander, let us tune our hearts to sing God's grace. May we rest in streams of mercy, never ceasing."

I believe that this is going to be a really meaningful season and I am looking forward to taking this journey with you!

*Pastor Stacy*



Wandering  
Heart  
*"Jesus sought me"*

# FAITH FORMATION

## Amplify Media – Free Resources

Grove Church has a wonderful resource you can access for FREE called Amplify Media. You can set up a free account on Amplify using the link and password below. There are bible studies, videos, and original content created just for Amplify by well-known authors like Adam Hamilton, Max Lucado and Andy Stanley. So much content that is completely free to you. I invite you to set up your free account today and experience the opportunity to enrich your spiritual life and biblical understanding.

<https://my.amplifymedia.com/amplify> Password: SWYCJV

## LENT OPPORTUNITIES

### *Adults*

**Join Pastor Stacy in the Z Lounge** on Sunday mornings, beginning on February 18, for conversations related to our Lenten worship theme *Wandering Heart: Figuring Out our Faith with Peter*.

### YOUTH

All youth 12-18 are invited to Grove Youth Ministry (GYM) on Sunday afternoons with Mike Hardie, Grove Youth Director, for some faith formation using popular Bible stories you may have questions about. These are casual conversations and if there is a story you've always wondered about ask Mike to add it to his list for a future chat!

### Children

Sunday mornings at 10:10 am children meet in Rooms 204-206 for a multi-sensory approach to exploring Bible stories. We have our popular LEGOS but children can also express themselves through various art supplies to create a depiction of the story we are exploring and wondering about that day.

Scott Byerly offers an opportunity for children to learn to play hand chimes.

Parents gather in an adjacent room gather to chat about faith and life stuff.

### Intergenerational

#### Celebrating Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday

**Second Sundays are for intergenerational faith formation in Fellowship Hall for all ages!**

Our next gathering is on **February 11, at 10:10 am**. We will enjoy mini pancakes in honor of "Shrove Tuesday" and create an "Ash Cross" altar cloth for Lent worship.

## Devotional Resources for Lent



### “Wandering Heart: Figuring out faith with Peter”

A devotional guide or devotional cards from our Lent worship series are available free of charge. If you would like digital or paper copies to use during Lent, please click the link or QR code to go to the sign-up form at: <https://bit.ly/42r0P9V>

**Online resource #pictureLent2024** is a daily devotional with a picture, scripture verse, wondering questions and a prayer. Search #pictureLent2024 in your browser. (Pastor Eva’s contribution is on 2/29)

For families with children, check out the Bedtime Stories and Prayers flyer in this newsletter.

## BIBLES AND DEVOTIONAL BOOKS

**We are presenting Bibles or Devotional Books to children and youth on Sunday, February 18, at both worship services. We invite Grove families and friends to be sure to attend with their children or youth.**

### New Worship Bag Station

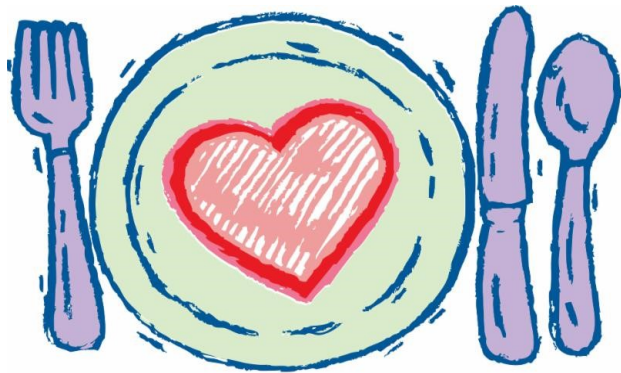
We welcome children’s participation in worship and provide a *Grace Space* with a table and various quiet toys available. Children can color, build and play in a comfortable space with parents seated nearby. Worship bags are an integral part of this space. Each week a child can choose what they would like to put in their bag for the day to and then return the bag back to the station.

In February we are introducing a new ***Worship Bag Station in the Annex hallway*** where children can choose some items they would like to use during the service. *NEW* to this station are some sensory friendly items for children. These include noise reducing headphones, sensory boards, and small fidget toys.

Grove Church welcomes children as an important part of the worshipping community! Let us know how we can help your child enjoy participation in the worship space.

### Of Interest for Booklovers

Are you familiar with Bookshop.org? This online bookstore allows you to designate a “brick and mortar” bookstore to receive a bonus from your book purchase. Check it out at: <https://bookshop.org>



## COMMUNITY DINNER

## COMMUNITY DINNER

Thursday, February 8th from  
4:30-6:30 pm

We will be serving Spaghetti and Meatballs!  
Questions, please email  
[CommunityDinner@GroveChurch.org](mailto:CommunityDinner@GroveChurch.org).



The Prayer Shawl Group meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 1 pm in the Z lounge . We would love to see some new faces join us . Our group continues to make Prayer Shawls , Lap robes , Prayer Squares, Prayer Bracelets , Baby Blankets etc. .

If you crochet or knit or want to learn come join us . If you can't come but would love to contribute to our cause please contact one of us Ann McCann, Linda Kiefer or Dianne Casper



**SINGERS SANCTUARY**

**Monday's from 7-9 pm  
in the Sanctuary**

**SEE TOM MARSDEN**

**Please come to Singers  
Sanctuary at Grove every  
Monday evening (7-9 PM)!**

Specifically tailored for adults who love to sing but may not feel ready for Karaoke Night or community/church choirs, Singers Sanctuary at Grove is a time to gather with friendly people, sing as much (or little) as you wish, work through those uncomfortable barriers

of stage fright, and even gain experience with singing into a microphone. Songs, both sacred and secular, of all genres/cultures/languages are welcome!

Questions, email Tom Marsden - [tabernaclechoir@grovechurch.org](mailto:tabernaclechoir@grovechurch.org)



**Donate much-needed men's underwear to Philadelphia prison inmates for Easter.**

Each inmate arriving into the Philadelphia Prison System is given ONE pair of underpants and no undershirts. Can you imagine living with only one pair of underpants?

Two years ago, in our first Undies for Easter Campaign, your generosity provided over 2000 men's briefs and over 2000 men's undershirts.\* Head Chaplain Carmelo Urena is now again in need of assistance, as he aims to provide

at least one additional pair of briefs and an undershirt to each individual entering incarceration.

The need has grown as the number of people in the Philadelphia prison system has increased significantly from about 6000 to about 8000. The needs of about 300 women there are being addressed by a number of other organizations. The men in the system do not have this support. So our new campaign will focus on providing briefs and undershirts for the men.

We have set up a new Undies for Easter Gift Registry on Amazon.com.  
[tinyurl.com/2024Undies4Easter](https://tinyurl.com/2024Undies4Easter)

Anyone can easily purchase online packages of selected Hanes underwear, containing nine pairs of men's white briefs—medium or large—and Hanes 6-packs of undershirts in large and X-large. They will benefit the health and wellness of our incarcerated brothers. The cost may vary, but it should be affordable and worthwhile.

We hope to again collect and deliver at least 2,000 pairs of briefs and undershirts through this campaign to support the chaplain's efforts. This campaign will end on Palm Sunday, March 24; and all purchased underwear will be delivered to the chaplain before Easter Sunday.

Thank you for your generosity in supporting those who are incarcerated!  
The EPA UMC Prison Ministry and Restorative Justice Team

\*Read "[EPA delivers 'Undies for Easter' to grateful prison staff](#)"

\*\*All donations must be made online via Amazon.com and delivered to the Eastern PA Conference Office P.O. Box before Palm Sunday, March 24, 2024. All men's briefs and undershirts must be identical to those specific items on our Amazon gift list. Contact the [Rev. Marilyn Schneider](#) with any questions or concerns.



United  
Women  
in Faith

**All women are invited to our first meeting of 2024** on Monday, February 19th at 7:00 in Fellowship Hall. We will be distributing funds from our *Celebrate with Chocolate* fundraiser and discussing plans for 2024. Come with your ideas and let's see how we can be involved in 2024!

## Grove Preschool Update

The preschool is back in swing after the Christmas holidays. We are currently accepting registrations for the 2024-2025 school year. The preschool class hours have been extended for next school year and we are offering more full day class options. The registration link can be found on the preschool pages of the church website or by scanning this link:



After TWO years without snow, one of our 4's students was finally able to use the snowstick they made in class to measure snowfall!

## Nurture Team Update

Recently Kristin Mattie had the opportunity to train two new Cancer Care Ministers for Our Journey of Hope team. To honor them and the four active original Ministers, Pastor Stacy will be commissioning/recommissioning these dedicated individuals during the February 11 service. OJOH will then be hosting Coffee Hour, so please stop by to thank these folks for the support they offer families dealing with cancer and ask any questions you may have.

Eight people received home communion on January 7, and all were very grateful for the trained communion servers who brought the consecrated elements as well as cheery, listening ears. If you, or someone you know, wishes to receive communion at home, please contact the church office or [nurtureteam@grovehurch.org](mailto:nurtureteam@grovehurch.org).

The Shawl Ministry group is actively seeking additional members. Join them in Z Lounge on the second Wednesday of the month at 1 pm. They will be happy to share their knitting and crocheting knowledge and are starting to crochet fingerless gloves, some of which will be added to the Free Little Pantry. They are quick and easy and great for newcomers to try!



## Youth Choir Auction Baskets Auction: March 23<sup>rd</sup> !!



It's Auction time again and we're starting to think auction baskets for the Youth Choir. This is an opportunity for individuals, families, groups of families, church groups and anyone and everyone to put together their own basket for donation. It's a great opportunity to spend time together coming up with a theme, planning, shopping or making items for the basket and putting together a fun and unique expression of your time. The baskets will be donated and put up as an item for auction on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Your name and/or group will be displayed on the description sign (or not if you wish to remain anonymous).

It's important to note that the word basket is only a generic term for the container for your theme. Feel free to use your imagination....use a tub, box, bucket, tote, wheel barrow, whatever you want to hold your stuff!

There are several ways a 'basket' can be put together. A group can put everything together from start to finish, supplying the container and all items, or you can provide the items and we'll take care of putting the finishing touches on the final presentation and finding a container. If you want help figuring out a theme, we've had several over the years.....baking, cooking, Italian, reading, movies, music, baby, household fix-it items, bar-b-que, college, chocolate, beauty, exercise, crafts, pampering, scrapbook, coffee, tools, family fun, games, emergency, cleaning, gardening, sports, teacher, and socks! Whatever you come up with, we're happy to have it.



We have many empty baskets so please feel free to check with me first before you purchase a container if you do not have one. I'm sure we can find something to suit your needs.

**Tips:** Please no alcohol. **Do not cellophane baskets.**

And of course, come out to Auction Night and see the baskets and bid on them! Have fun with this while helping to support the youth choir tour. All donations must be turned in by **March 15<sup>th</sup>**. We can arrange for pick up and other help you require. If you are interested in contributing or have any questions, please contact Denny Scheffler or the church office.



# February Youth Choir & Ministry Activities

## Sunday, Feb 4th

**Youth Choir sings at the Rooted Service**

**Youth Choir rehearsal 12:30-2:30 pm**

**Youth Group 2:30-4:00 pm**



## Sunday, Feb 11th

**Youth Choir rehearsal 12:30-2:30 pm**

**Youth Group 2:30-4:00 pm**



## Sunday, Feb 18th

**Youth Choir sings at the Rooted Service**

**Youth Choir rehearsal 4:30-6:00 pm**

**Youth Group 6:00-8:00 pm**

**Dinner at 6:00 pm**

## Sunday, Feb 25th

**Youth Choir sings at the Rooted Service**

**Youth Choir rehearsal 12:30-2:30 pm**

**Youth Group 2:30-4:00 pm**



**[youth@grovechurch.org](mailto:youth@grovechurch.org)**



# January Highlights



**Ball Games**



**Board Games**



**MLK Day of Service**



**more  
games!**



**Appalachia Service  
Project (A.S.P.)  
July 6th-July 13th  
Next meeting-3/17/24  
after the Rooted Service**

**Email Mike Hardie  
youth@grovechurch.org**

---

**The Youth Choir**



**is March 23rd!**

**We continue to need donations of gift cards,  
baskets, new/almost new items, live auction  
items such as tickets to experiences,  
vacation homes, or any other “big ticket”  
items to help our auction succeed!**

**Please see the Hardie’s or Byerly’s with questions**



## Please Think of All the Special Valentines in Your Life

Think of all the people you'd like to say 'You are special' to for Valentine's Day or just because they are special to you. If you are part of a group where you think you can sell some

boxes of 12 chocolate-covered Oreos, send an email to [Oreos@grovechurch.org](mailto:Oreos@grovechurch.org) and we will fix you up to make even more people happy!

Sales at Grove:

**Sunday, February 4, 2024 – Sell Oreos at Grove after both services**

**Sunday, February 11, 2024 – Sell Oreos at Grove after both services.**

And mark your calendars for the actual RAH event:

**Sunday, March 10, 2024 – Rise Against Hunger Event at Grove, 6-8pm.**

**Woohoo!! RAH is back at Grove.**



## LEADERSHIP BOARD MEETING

Monday, February 12th at 7:00 pm  
in Fellowship Hall or via Zoom

*Everyone is invited to attend the meeting*

## January Leadership Board Work Session

On January 8, 2024 the Leadership Board conducted our first work session for 2024. The opening prayer and Spiritual Formation were offered by Pastor Stacy. The work session centered around getting our new members (Kylie Shoyer, Emily Benner, and Lynn Baker) set up with their computer access to the Leadership Board files and

emails, determining our 2024 meeting dates and preparing for the upcoming Town Hall. The Town Hall was held on January 21, 2024 in the Sanctuary at 10:10am. The Leadership Board meeting schedule for 2024 will be posted to the Grove calendar and be available in the Town Hall handouts. Rawley Shelton offered the closing prayer.



Early in January, Michael, one of Grove's former Good Works homeowners, passed away in his home. You may recall previous newsletter articles about Michael for he was someone who touched the heart of every volunteer who met him and remained in our thoughts and prayers long after we finished working on his home.

We were able to remain in contact with Michael over the years because of Syd Raihall. Syd volunteers as a Good Works Beyond the Workday (BTW) Ambassador. As such, she has been in contact with a couple of former Good Works homeowners over the years. Through phone calls and personal visits, she serves as a valued contact and friend to these homeowners offering conversation, a listening ear, and spiritual encouragement. We were all delighted when Syd told us that Michael was one of her assigned homeowners and we shared with her the joys and sorrows of Michael's story during the past three years.

Syd attended Michael's Memorial Service last week. She told me that it was a well-attended event during which many of Michael's friends and family members got up to speak about him. It was not a religious service and Syd keenly felt the absence of any mention of God and his role in Michael's life. She felt a strong nudge to speak and when she did, she talked about her role as a Good Works BTW Ambassador and her friendship with Michael. She spoke of his gratitude for Jesus being in his life and told the story about when he attended a Good Works Celebration Dinner several years ago as her guest and how he stepped up that night and accepted Jesus as his Lord and Savior. After the service, Michael's son thanked Syd for what she'd said.

There can be no better testimony for the value of the work done by the volunteers of Grove's Good Works Ministry. Yes, we repair homes and help people stay warm, safe, and dry in their homes. But while we're there we build relationships and share that we're there doing God's work, providing hope and sharing the message of His love. With Beyond the Workday Ambassadors continuing that relationship after the home repair volunteers are finished their work, homeowners and their families benefit from continued support, prayer, and spiritual nurturing that they wouldn't have otherwise. It's a wonderful thing with tangible results as we clearly see in Michael's case. We know that he has gone home to be with the Lord. Please keep him and his family in your prayers.

You can be a part of this ministry too. You can be an Ambassador on workdays and be a key player in building a relationship that leads to the opportunity to disciple to the homeowner. You can be a Beyond the Workday Ambassador like Syd and, with as little as one phone call a month, nurture that relationship and help build and strengthen someone's faith in God's love and salvation. Or you can become a home repair volunteer and join our team on any Saturday workday. I hope you'll prayerfully consider these opportunities to volunteer.

If you'd like more information, contact Betty at [GoodWorks@grovechurch.org](mailto:GoodWorks@grovechurch.org).

# TREAT YOUR SHELF

BEDTIME STORIES  
AND PRAYERS  
WITH CULTIVATE  
FAITH @ PRC



**SETTLE IN FOR A STORY, GO FORTH WITH A BLESSING!**

## SUNDAY SESSIONS

- 2/18 GLENYS NELLIST
- 2/25 CAREY WALLACE
- 3/3 LAURA ALARY
- 3/10 MELANIE GORDON
- 3/17 JUNIPER LANUNZIATA
- 3/24 ELIZABETH CHRISTIE  
AND SARAH DEL GROSSO

## WEDNESDAY SESSIONS

- 2/21 REV. KAREN WARE JACKSON
- 2/28 REV. LANIE SIPES
- 3/6 REV. A WILLIAMS
- 3/13 REV. JO OWENS
- 3/20 REV. EVA JOHNSON
- 3/27 ELIZABETH CHRISTIE  
AND THE FRITZKIDS

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER  
<https://bit.ly/3w2DcIw>

OR SCAN HERE





**Save the Dates!**

July 15<sup>th</sup>- 19<sup>th</sup> 2024

Grove Church VBS

Registration begins May 1<sup>st</sup>

Watch our website [grovechurch.org](http://grovechurch.org)  
for forms.

**Wanted: 1 Person**

To join our team of 3 in planning and making a dinner on the 4th Tuesday of each month for 30 people at the Salvation Army. Our team started out with 5 people and now has three. A fourth would make it work better for all of us. We arrive around 4:45pm at the Salvation Army in West Chester, and usually are able to leave by 5:30pm when most have been served. After that, the wonderful Jeremiah takes over.



If you are interested, please give a call to the office, or send an email to [office@grovechurch.org](mailto:office@grovechurch.org) and they will get your info to us.



## Ash Wednesday Services

February 14th,

Grove Church

at 12:00 pm

Marshallton UMC

at 7:00 pm