



## **Lent at Grove**

### **Maundy Thursday**

7:00 pm at Willistown UMC

### **Good Friday**

12:00 - 3:00 pm Prayer Stations at Grove  
7:00 pm at W. Chester UMC

### **Easter Egg Hunt - March 30th**

10:00 am at Grove UMC

### **Easter Sunday**

6:30 am Sunrise at Boot Road Park  
9:00 & 11:15 am Services at Grove Church



### **Many Hands Are Needed to Package 22,000 Meals in 2 Hours**

About 100 pairs of hands are needed on March 10 to work together to package 22,000 meals. Families, singles, young and not so young are all encouraged to join in the fun. We will provide babysitting for the real young ones. *Maybe the gong will return!!*

We need people to unload the RAH truck from 4-6pm, then the many, many hands to do the packaging from 6-8pm.

Please sign up on the lists in the hallway at Grove. Any questions, send an email to [Oreos@grovechurch.org](mailto:Oreos@grovechurch.org).

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

### Continued Fundraising Needed for Rise Against Hunger

We have had some good success with our Oreo Fundraiser, getting us closer to the needed ~\$9,000 we need to pay for the meals we will pack on Sunday March 10.

Your continued help is needed for this. Please consider making a donation.

You can do this via check (made out to Grove UMC, add Rise Against Hunger in the memo line), online ([grovechurch.org](http://grovechurch.org) -> Giving and choose one of the ways to give), or sprinkle your donation into the hands of Cindy or Linda who will handle it from there.

Any questions, send an email to [Oreos@grovechurch.org](mailto:Oreos@grovechurch.org).

Thank you in advance.

The Grove RAH Team.



# **YOUTH CHOIR AUCTION**

## **Saturday, March 23rd!**

We are still in need of gift cards to restaurants or experiences, gift baskets, & bigger ticket items to be able to have a live auction. Please consider donating. We can accept items until Sunday morning 3/17.

**Thank you!!!**

**Questions? Email [choirauction@grovechurch.org](mailto:choirauction@grovechurch.org) or talk to Mike or Jenifer Hardie or Rachel or Scott Byerly**

**The Youth Choir is March 23rd beginning at 6:30 pm with a silent auction followed by the Youth Choir sharing some Tour songs!**

**We will gladly accept donations of gift cards, baskets, new/almost new items, live auction items such as tickets to experiences, vacation homes, etc. until Sunday, March 10th.**

**Thank you for helping us have a successful auction!  
Please see the Hardie's or Byerly's with questions**





## 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.







## We've Noticed

Grove Cemetery is independent of Grove Church, but realistically is very much a part of Grove and Grove's contribution to the community. The Cemetery Board, all volunteers, are : Brenda Lewis, President. Matt Morley, Treasurer. Rosalie McHoul, Secretary. Rae Guthrie and Diane Casper, Members-at-Large. Dave Koch adds Grove records to "Find a Grave." Jim Hoffmaster is Superintendent and does the day-to-day management selling lots, arranging for burials, answering questions about grave locations, and maintaining records. See the plaque outside of the kitchen with the names of former Grove Cemetery Board Members. Recent projects include improving roads through the Cemetery, utilizing professional grounds maintenance, and planting hyacinths and daffodils in the Cremation Garden. Grove Cemetery prides itself on serving people near and far for 250 years.

Eric Schwalm has been nursing the ice machine in the kitchen to keep it working until the parts are available and the repair can be made. He has also been researching the options for replacement of the kitchen refrigerator, which is on its last legs. Lori Plunkett is coordinating the work done by the Building Maintenance and Repair Team, which Eric is part of.

Marshall recently changed jobs and he now works for CBS3 as Newscast Director. What's more, he negotiated with them to have Sundays available for his work at Grove so that he could continue directing our Tech Team and worship service streaming. We are grateful for his dedication.

*Thank you!*

## Nurture Doings

Please join the Nurture Team in Fellowship Hall on March 3<sup>rd</sup> for Coffee Hour and to sign Easter cards for our homebound and college-age folks as well as the Grove Preschool staff. This is a great opportunity to send a hopeful and heartfelt Easter message to others by signing cards between 8:30 and noon.



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 with newcomers and always delighted to accept needed items you may have made at home. Talk to Diane Casper for more information or email [nurtureteam@grovechurch.org](mailto:nurtureteam@grovechurch.org).

With lots of participation from team members, we have assembled 110 Easter goodie bags for the Grove Preschool students and 25 different bags for the church's homebound members (think suncatchers and paper flowers!). Nurture Team members will deliver these to the folks who live locally.

Through the grace of God, Kathy Parker has sensed a need within Grove to support those in caregiving roles and has stepped up to organize and facilitate this group. It is apparent that caregivers for a spouse, or another family member, are the best qualified to lend support to others in similar situations. Diane Casper is lending her expertise to this venture which is meeting biweekly. Together the group will determine what is most helpful for them; currently it seems that sharing stories of frustrations and possible solutions has been most valuable. If you are a caregiver of someone in your home or in a facility, and would like to know more about this group, please talk to one of the facilitators or email the Nurture Team address above.



**Grove's next workday for Good Works** is Saturday, March 9. We're making good progress at Renee's, but there are plenty of repair projects still waiting to be done. Won't you join us for the day and help us make Renee's home warmer, safer, dryer and healthier? Whether you come with two willing hands and an open heart or a bag full of tools and lots of experience, there's plenty you can do to help.

Contact Betty at [goodworks@grovechurch.org](mailto:goodworks@grovechurch.org) for information.





## COMMUNITY DINNER

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Thursday, March 14th from  
4:30-6:30 pm

We will be serving Ham , Mac & Cheese  
Questions, please email

[CommunityDinner@GroveChurch.org](mailto:CommunityDinner@GroveChurch.org).

## Faith Formation

### Wandering Heart Lenten Theme

#### Adults

Conversations with Pastor Stacy on the weekly themes of this Lenten series will be held in the Z Lounge at 10:10 AM.

#### Children

*Bible Adventures with Legos and More* are held in Rooms 204/206. Following the Gospel stories of Peter and Jesus we read, wonder, and create.

#### Intergenerational Faith Formation

All are invited to join Pastor Eva in Fellowship Hall on March 10<sup>th</sup>. This month's story centers around Matthew 16:21-23 and Jesus' rebuke of Peter. We will learn how God's way is the best way for us and create a labyrinth.



## Celebration of Scouting Ministries



On Sunday, March 10, we will honor those who participate in Scouting ministries. All Scouts and Scout Leaders are invited to wear their uniforms to worship to be acknowledged. Photo credit: UrechenkoJulia/gettyimages

## Grove's Annual Easter Egg Hunt March 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM



We will gather in the upper parking lot at Grove for egg hunting fun (if it rains, in the Church Sanctuary). Bring a basket/bag to carry home your treats!

Registration is required. <https://bit.ly/3OXqDFI>

or scan the QR code



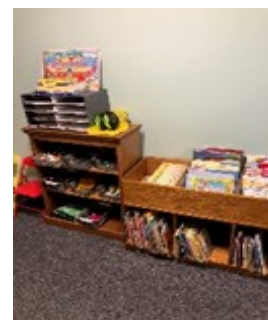
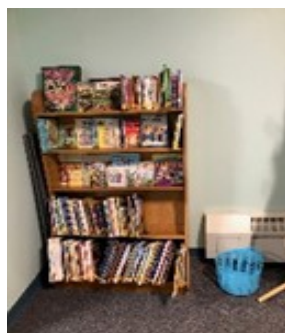
## Egg Hunt Treats Requested



If you would like to contribute small wrapped candies for the Egg Hunt, please place them in the marked bin by the church kitchen or drop off at the church office Monday through Thursday before 1:00 PM.

## Build Your Own Worship Activity Bag Center

Families with children are invited to visit the worship bag center at the end of the first floor hallway. A variety of coloring books, crayons, story books and fidget busters are available to choose from.





## Leadership Board Meeting February 12, 2024

This board meeting started with a prayer lead by Kylie Shoyer.

Bob lead a discussion on the introduction of Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations. A few themes of the discussion were that actions speak louder than words and to grow as a church in today's world, trying new things is necessary and if they don't work, there's no fault in trying, we should celebrate trying.

The leadership board signed the covenant.

Pastor Stacy and Bob Moore spoke on praises and problems. Two new small groups of spiritual formation were started; artist's way and a woman's small group. The Confirmation class has participants signed up and is in the process of being scheduled with everyone's calendars. Pastor Eva is creating a children's space to build their own worship bags for each service. With Lent starting, we are sharing services with community partners and want to collect feedback on these collaborations. Bob discussed issues with how long it is taking to received the 2023 end of year numbers from our accounting partners.

The Board voted to approve the following Consent Calendar items:

- 2024 Meeting Schedule

- Grove UMC Guiding Principals

- Grove Org Chart

- Request for Action by Leadership Board Form

- Countryside Consulting Contract

- January 2024 Leadership board work session minutes

The Board discussed strategic planning. How do we get to the goal of Everyone Belongs. Discussed legacy giving and potentially holding a workshop for the community on giving. Nicole Paul discussed updating the Guiding Principals to be less verbose and easier to absorb. The Board also discussed leadership board standing teams and assignments

Bob lead a discussion on the budget around fund resolution. We discussed moving towards 8 buckets of giving so funds can be tracked more accurately. Bob sorted the existing funds into the following 8 categories: Worship/Creative Arts/Office, Congregational Care, Mission & Outreach, Faith Formation, and Youth & Young Adult. The goal would be to make giving and tracking funds easier for all. The board discussed looking into a nonprofit church accountant.

An executive session was held.

The next Board meeting is Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, at 7PM. All are welcome!

# MARCH

## Youth Schedule & Activities

Sunday, March 3rd

Youth Choir sings at the Rooted Service

Youth Choir rehearsal 4:30-6:00 pm

Youth Group 6:00-8:00 pm



Sunday, March 10th

Youth Choir sings at the Rooted Service

Youth Choir rehearsal 12:30-2:30 pm



Rise Against Hunger Event

6:00-8:00 pm

Sunday, March 17th

Youth Choir sings at the Rooted Service



Youth Choir rehearsal

4:30-6:00 pm

Youth Group 6:00-8:00 pm

Friday, March 22nd

Auction set up-time tbd



Saturday, March 23rd

Youth Choir Auction 6:30 pm



Sunday, March 24th

Youth Choir sings at the Rooted Service

Youth Choir rehearsal 12:30-1:30 pm

No Youth Group due to Auction weekend

Monday, March 25th

Choir Tour rehearsal 7-8:30 pm



March 31st

no choir rehearsal or youth group

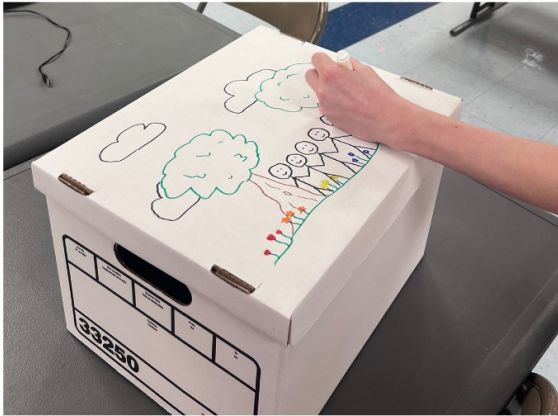


*Happy Easter!*





# February Highlights





## 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](mailto:youth@grovechurch.org) with questions

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### The Youth Choir



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American culture highly values romantic love. Yet, the significance of friendships is equally crucial. Psychological research emphasizes the stable, healthy friendships are essential for well-being and longevity.

#wcyouthmatter

(Source: American Psychological Association)





***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.





**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.



## EASTER FLOWERS

Tulips & Daffodils are \$9.00

Easter Lilies are \$10.00

You may mail orders and checks to the office or email the office ([office@grovechurch.org](mailto:office@grovechurch.org)) with your order and dedication. Please pick the flowers up after the Easter Services.



# Happy Easter