



The Grove Gazette

Grove United Methodist Church's News
September 2020

Worship Services and Giving

Hybrid worship at Grove

Sundays 9:30 am
in your car
bring a chair and sit outside
bring your mask
call 540-639-2807 and we
will make sure you have a
place reserved

Virtual worship at Grove

Links are available at
groveumcradford.com

Give online to Grove UMC

groveumcradford.com
Click the "Give to Grove" link
at the top of the screen

Give by mail to Grove UMC

1020 Tyler Ave
Radford, VA 24141

Collecting for Radford Food Bank

A no-touch drop box is provided following our 9:30 am Sunday morning worship for your donations of unopened non-perishable goods to support our local food bank.

If you need to drop your donations off during the week please call the church office 540-639-2807 and we will arrange a time.

Dear Grove UMC Family,

Like many of you, part of my spiritual discipline is to read the Upper Room Devotional. The other day, while I appreciated the reflection and prayer that was offered, it was the scripture from Psalm 4: 4 that caught my attention:

*"When you are disturbed (angry), do not sin:
ponder it on your beds, and be silent." (NRSV)*

Paul talks a lot about unity in his letters. In Ephesians 4 under a section titled, "Rules for New Life" Paul calls followers of the Christ to, *"Be angry but do not sin: do not let the sun go down on your anger."* The Jewish/Christian Paul certainly was familiar with Psalm 4. These are good rules to live by, but how do we do that?

"Anger" in scriptural context of Psalm 4 refers to the emotion we feel when confronted by our enemies. I thought about the anger I feel as we struggle today: with: pandemics, illness, racism, politics, and yes, sometimes even religion.

September 11, 2020 marked 19 years since the attacks on the Twin Towers in NYC. Following those attacks, as a nation, we were angry. What we did with our anger mattered. Recently, a man who was orphaned as a child when his father died in the 9/11 attack on the Twin Towers shared his reflections on how we navigated our anger. He said what made a difference was that we stood united in our grief and "love for our nation" (love for one another).

The context we find ourselves in today is a breeding ground for anger. Anger born of a reality, or a fear, that our well-being (emotional, physical, psychological, or spiritual) is threatened. The psalmist nor Paul, negate the fact that anger is a natural human emotion. Both the psalmist and Paul agree, how we respond to our anger matters. The psalmist says, and Paul echoes, *"when you are angry, do not sin."* To *"sin"* is an action we take that causes us to "miss the mark," to be thrown "off-track" or to "lose our way." Ultimately sin is an action, the result of which damages our relationship with God and one another.

So how are we to be angry and not sin? Good question. For whenever we are hurt our natural reactions are to a) hit back b) point our fingers in the direction of the hurt and begin blaming. Here is where the psalmist instructs **not to react** but **to act**, to *"ponder it on your beds and be silent."* To allow the Spirit of God to quiet our spirits. In fact, in the context of Psalm 4, "to be silent" refers to gathering

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your composure, to have “peace of mind” or to “be quieted.” Many times in the Gospels when the disciples anger or anxiety increased, or even when the creative elements such as wind and waves got out of control, Jesus shows up speaking, “Peace.”

Circumstances may not change, any more than it changed for the son whose father died at the hands of other people’s anger toward our nation. There will be times when anger rises within us. However, let us intentionally place ourselves before God first, in order to create that holy space where we can be “silent” and quiet our minds and open ourselves to receive the peace of God, to trust God with our whole selves, our whole lives.

In preparing to depart from this world, Jesus said to his disciples:

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. (John 14:27)

Again, in John 16, Jesus reminds his disciples:

“I have said this to you, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world!” (John 16:33)

In Christ’s love and peace,

Rev. Dr. Jan Nicholson Angle

Minister, Grove UMC

Grove UMC Plans for VIRTUAL Charge Conference -- Tues. Oct 27 -- 7:00 pm

Officers and Leaders Please Read the following regarding Nominations and Church Leadership

Please mark your calendars for our annual Charge Conference which will be virtual this year due to COVID. We will gather as a “Radford Cluster” to include the following churches: Central, Fairlawn/Bethel, Grove, New River Circuit (Belspring, Morgan’s Chapel, Rockford), and Radford Circuit (Carter Street, New Hope, New Mount Olive). Link to be provided at later date.

The annual Charge Conference is a time of celebration and accountability through which each local United Methodist church evaluates its mission and ministries, receives annual reports, recommend candidates for licensed or ordained ministry, set the compensation of the pastor and other staff appointed by the bishop, and elect, upon recommendation from Nominations and Leadership Development, leaders of the local church. (¶247, ¶249 BOD-UMC).

CURRENT GROVE UMC CHURCH OFFICERS TO EXTEND POSITIONS FOR ONE YEAR

This year, due to the pandemic, and by authority of Holston Conference Cabinet and Bishop Taylor, we are asking Grove UMC church officers to continue in their present positions another year. Those offices listed on a three year rotation will simply extend for one year. If you are currently serving in a position and feel God is calling you to step down, please be in touch with your minister Rev. Dr. Jan Nicholson-Angle immediately. You may reach Jan by calling the church office or sending her a private email at jnicholson@nccumc.org

THANK YOU!

We are upgrading some of our office equipment and internet and we want to say thank you to everyone at Grove who have helped to make this happen!

PRAYER LIST

Assisted Living: Diane Pryor and Betty Jo Lester at Showalter; Martha Owells at Commonwealth Home; Corene Simms, Renie Price

If you have additions to be added to the prayer list notify Anna Frye , Parish Visitor 639-0523.

Connect and Grow at Grove

In the history of the Christian Church and in particular in the roots of Methodism, we have been taught and know that while gathering to worship is central to our Christian life together, small groups are the heart of our Christian formation and fellowship. In Hebrews we are taught:

Do not neglect gathering together

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together as some are in the habit of doing, but encourage one another (Hebrews 10:24-25).

Check out these small group opportunities. Each group will meet outdoors at Grove UMC unless otherwise indicated. Participants will need to wear masks and practice social distancing when gathered together. Connecting to some of these groups through Zoom is also possible.

O'Donnel Class: Sunday mornings following 9:30 am worship. Using the Adult Bible Study Series for lecture and discussion Wayne Pridden leads this class in lively exploration of God's Word for God's people today. Open to everyone!

Gardeners in the Grove: Fridays 9:00 am -10:30 am Sept 25- Oct 30; Do you love and enjoy God's created world? Have a passion for planting, weeding, mowing? This group is created just for you! Gardeners in the Grove will meet briefly as a group to study and reflect on Creation Care and then spend 30-60 min (less if you wish, more if you like) tending the lawns and gardens around the Grove. It is possible to work solo. This group for all ages is facilitated by Rev Dr Jan.

Short Stories by Jesus: Wednesdays 5:30-6:30 pm Sept 30 - Nov 4 on the lawn at Grove UMC. Using Amy Jill Levine's book of the same title, this short study looks at the parables Jesus told through the eyes of Jewish history, his early followers, and how they speak into our life today. Zoom participants also welcome with registration. Facilitated by Rev. Dr. Jan

Cub Scout Pack 46: Thursday's 6:00 - 7:00 pm in the pavilion. Pack 46 had their first outdoor socially distanced meeting on Sept 17. Pack Master is John Henderson and Grove UMC Representative is Olivia Carchia. Know a cub scout who might like to join? Contact Olivia at 856-669-1387.

Are you a leader of a Sunday School Class or small group (UMYF, UMW, UMM)? Small groups and Sunday School classes are meeting outside at Grove UMC. Choose your location! Take advantage of the pavilion, sit under the shade trees or gather in the parking lot. If you have a really small group (5 or less) you can also meet in the

A PLACE FOR YOU TO SERVE

Adam McAllister is seeking help with the online worship service to include videography and editing. If you can help or are interested in learning please contact Adam at allisteradammc@gmail.com

From Grove Administrative Board

Dear Grove Members,

Here we are in our non-traditional Fall season. Living in today's pandemic has taught us much and has certainly changed our way of doing business for the church. We have learned how to manage meetings without going to the Fellowship Hall at Grove. Instead, we use the internet and telephones to gather "virtually."

Honestly, it takes some getting used to, but it is not horrible.

We have met thirteen times this year, four in person prior to the pandemic, two by email, and seven using the Zoom software application. We have thirteen members and two ministers (Jan and Ila) for a total of fifteen. Over the course of the thirteen meetings, our average attendance has been 90%. That is spectacular. I guess one could say we all had a lot of time on our hands!

Our members were elected last Fall at Charge Conference and started their responsibilities in January 2020. In addition to Jan and Ila, they include Adam McAllister, Barry Anderson, Betsy Hagan, Bob Boggess, Frank Herzog, Libby Watts, Linda Gardiner, Marceline Hunter, Pat Brown, Susan Lesko, Terica Fisher, Tommy Fisher, Dave Winston, who was elected to serve as Clerk/Secretary of the Board in May, and me, Pat Brown.

We have made efforts to invite Grove's membership to the meetings. We realize not everyone is able to access the meetings, but over the thirteen meetings we have had eleven other Grove members join us. Most have joined us multiple times.

The Administrative Board is one committee that functions as the Trustees, Finance Committee, Endowment Committee and Church Council. It is new to Grove and has been described as a Simple Structure. I have not polled the Administrative Board to know exactly what they think of it, but my sense is that most of us like the structure.

Since July, we have been working on upgrading the technology of the church. Our telephones and internet were outdated, constantly not working well and offered no way to accomplish what is needed. We will be changing from Verizon to Shentel. The staff computers were also outdated and in great need of being replaced. We are working on purchasing two new computers, one for the main office and one for the pastor's office. We also believe we need to "ramp up" the security of the building for the protection of our members and staff.

It sounds like a lot to do at once, but a lot needed to be done. We will use some of the money from the rent being paid by the school system to use our lower level, to pay for needed upgrades.

We are so appreciative to have your support in the business work of the church. Join us.

In Peace,

Pat Brown

Chair, Grove Administrative Board

Grove UMC Connections

Church Office 540-2807

Website: groveumcradford.com

Church Email: groveumc1@verizon.net

Facebook: Grove United Methodist Church

Pastor's Email: jnicholson@nccumc.org

Address: 1020 Tyler Ave, Radford VA 24141