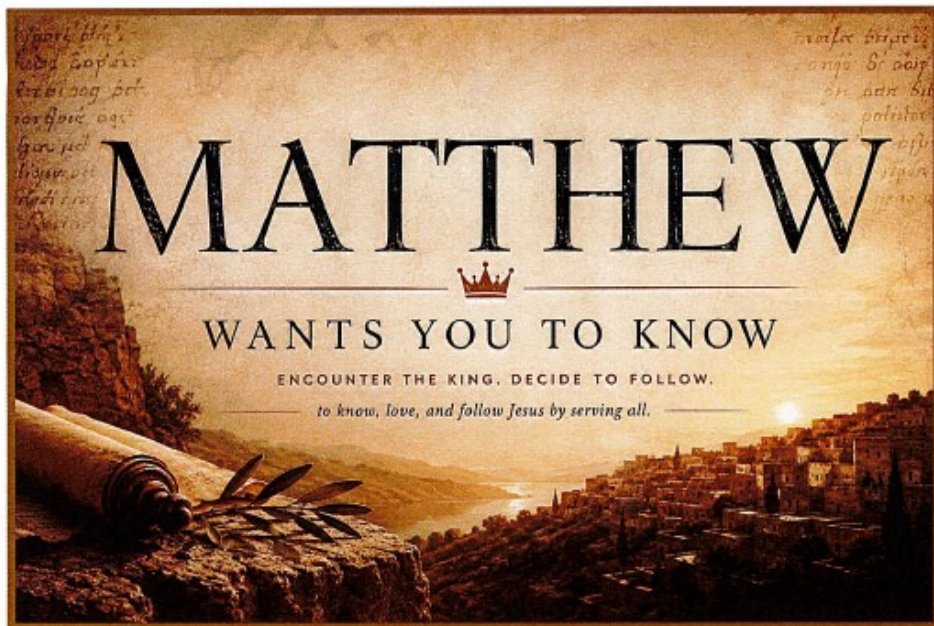




Matthew: Wants You to Know

Matthew wants you to know who Jesus is.

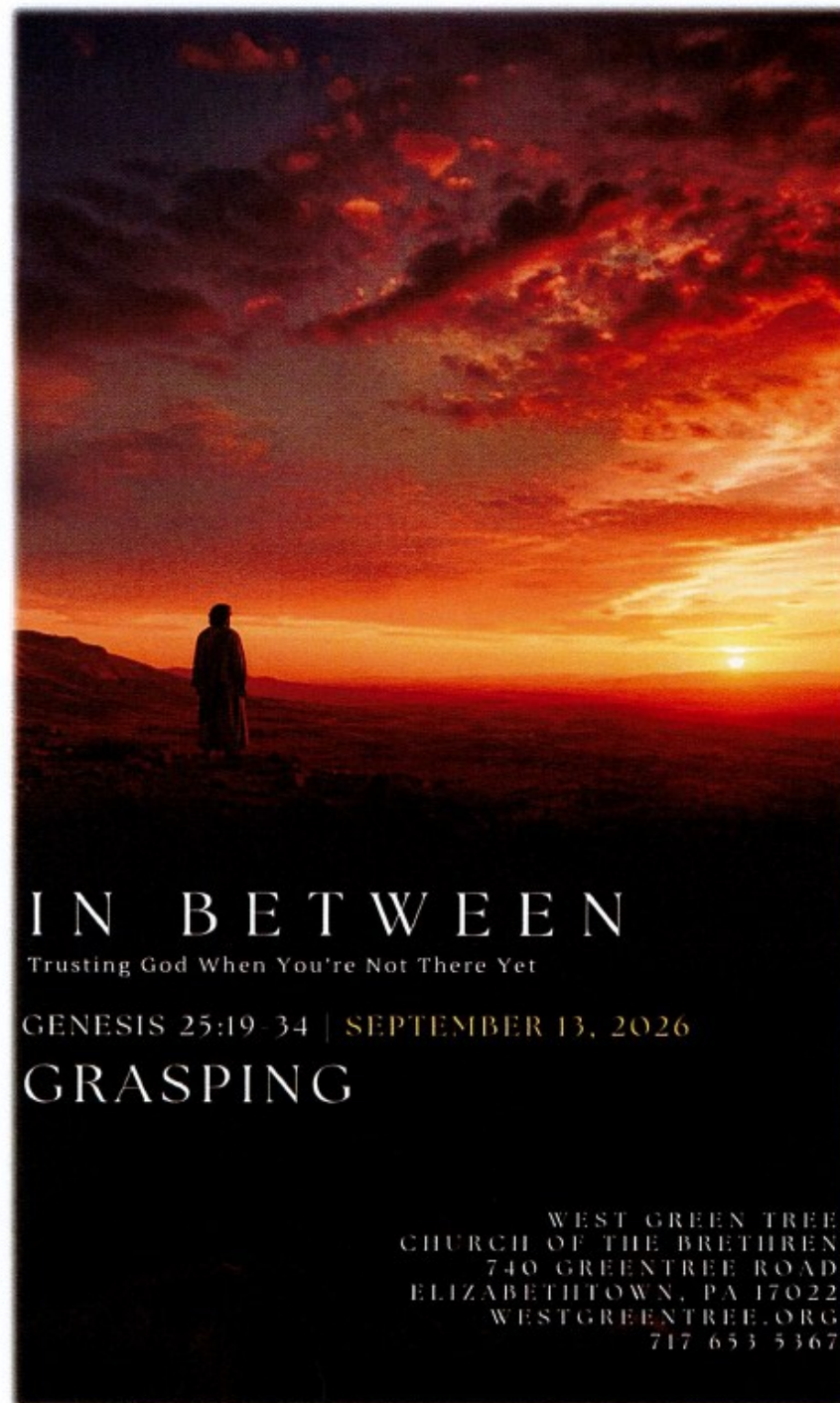
He doesn't simply tell the story of Jesus; he builds a case. From Abraham's family line to Jesus' birth, baptism, teaching, miracles, death, and resurrection, Matthew keeps pointing us toward the same conclusion: Jesus is the promised King.

This fall, we'll walk through Matthew 1-7 and consider the evidence Matthew puts before us. Who is Jesus? What is his kingdom like? And what does it mean to actually follow him?

Because knowing Jesus is never meant to stop with information. When we truly encounter the King, we're invited to respond - to love him, trust him, follow him, and join him in serving all.

Matthew: Wants You to Know.

September 20 – November 22



WEST GREEN TREE
CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
740 GREENTREE ROAD
ELIZABETHTOWN, PA 17022
WESTGREENTREE.ORG
717.653.5367

West Green Tree Church of the Brethren

September 13, 2026

9:45 AM Large Group Gathering

"To Know, Love, & Follow Jesus by Serving All"

Missions Invitations & Offering

Opening Worship Song

"Abide"

Time of Prayer

Scripture Reading

Genesis 25:19-28

Praise Through Song

"Fresh As the Morning (God of the Bible)"

"Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing" - pg. #11

Message

"Grasping"

Songs of Response

"Take My Life and Let it Be" - pg. #597

"Promises"

Benediction

In Between | Week 14 | Genesis 25:19-34

GRASPING

Isaac was really grasping for: _____. *Genesis 25:28*

Isaac's love followed what Esau could _____ him — he loved the son who could deliver.

Rebekah was really grasping for: _____. *Genesis 25:23*

God gave Rebekah a word about her sons. She would eventually try to _____ that word into being.

Esau was really grasping for: _____. *Genesis 25:34 / Hebrews 12:16-17*

The text doesn't say Esau was tricked. It says he _____ his birthright.

Jacob was really grasping for: _____. *Genesis 25:26*

Jacob is introduced _____ before he's made a single choice.

Isaac reached for provision. Rebekah reached for control. Esau reached for relief. Jacob reached for security. Four different objects. One empty hand every time.

The Turn

The covenant was never resting on their _____. *Genesis 25:19-34*

Jacob spent his life grasping. Genesis doesn't answer him with "stop grasping."

It answers him with "Jacob, you are already being _____" *Genesis 25:26*

At a well in Samaria, Jesus offered a woman water that didn't depend on her _____ first. *John 4*

What You Become

It's almost never your legs or your back that give out first when carrying something heavy — it's your _____.

Who do you become on the other side of an open hand? Not someone who's simply stopped grasping.

Someone who isn't _____ anymore. *Matthew 11:28-30*

Response

Not because you found the strength to let go. Because you finally believed you were already _____.

This Week — Name It / Ask It / Take One Step

NAME IT: What are you gripping right now that you believe is keeping your life together?

ASK IT: Do I actually believe I am already held - or am I still trying to secure this myself?

TAKE ONE STEP: This week, practice opening your hands around that one thing - not fixing it, not managing it, just loosening enough to see whether it was ever really yours to hold.

West Green Tree Upcoming Events/News.

- ⇒ **Love Offering for COBYS - [Servant Opportunity](#)**
WGT will be accepting monetary donations through TODAY for COBYS. Please mark your givings with COBYS in the memo line of checks or on your offering envelopes. If you wish to donate in cash, please place in an envelope marked COBYS and place in the offering plate. Please note this is separate from any regular offerings you give.
- ⇒ **Tiny Timbers Preschool Starts Tomorrow**
Tiny Timbers will start their school year this week. Please be in prayer for the students, the families and the staff as they share the love of Jesus with these students!
- ⇒ **Jr. Church is Coming Back!**
Jr. Church will resume next Sunday, September 20th! Kindergarten to 5th grade are invited to join us in Jr. Church to learn more about God! Plan to join us during the large group gathering. A message will be announced to dismiss the children. We look forward to having some fun while talking about Jesus!
- ⇒ **Evergreen News Submissions**
Submissions for the October Evergreen News are due to the church office by Monday, September 21st.
- ⇒ **Coffee Service Volunteer Needed - [Servant Opportunity](#)**
Nurture is looking for someone to fill the role of Coffee Service Volunteer. This person would be placed on a rotating schedule to prepare & set up the coffee for Sunday morning gatherings. Please see Greg Wiker if interested.
- ⇒ **Christmas Fellowship meal - [Servant Opportunity](#)**
Christmas is approaching quickly and you don't want to miss this opportunity! We will host the 15th Christmas Fellowship Meal at WGT in December. We are looking for someone to serve as the assistant coordinator. Ideally, this person would be willing to learn the ropes this year and act as the lead coordinator in 2027 with the assistance of the current lead coordinator. We are also looking for individuals to fill the roles of leads. Please visit the Christmas Fellowship Meal station in the Narthex to sign up. For any questions, or to express interest, please see Brienna Brown (717)468-1931.
- ⇒ **Tiny Timbers Supply Needs - [Servant Opportunity](#)**
Check out the table in the lobby - the one with the crayons! Each crayon is labeled with a school supply that Tiny Timbers could use for this school year. Consider grabbing a crayon & returning the school supply listed on the crayon. Supplies can be dropped off in the preschool classroom at the end of the Tiny Timbers hallway.

- ⇒ **Brethren Disaster Relief Auction**
The BDR Auction is an annual benefit event supporting Brethren Disaster Ministries' cleanup and rebuilding projects. It is hosted by volunteers from over 100 Church of the Brethren congregations and features auctions, food, crafts, and family activities. Plan to attend September 25th - 26th at the Lebanon Valley Expo Center. Visit their website for a list of events & schedule. www.brethrenauction.org
- ⇒ **Older Adult Coffee House**
Older folks are invited to attend the annual Coffee House Tuesday, October 20th, from 2 pm - 3:30 pm at Lancaster CoB on Sunset Avenue in Lancaster. Come enjoy a cozy afternoon of coffee, tea, cookies, music & fellowship with the ANE District. No registration is required for this FREE event!
- ⇒ **Operation Christmas Child - [Servant Opportunity](#)**
Back-to-school sales are in full swing, and it's the perfect time to grab supplies for this year's Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. School supplies, small toys, hygiene items — all the things on sale right now make great shoebox fillers. Start picking up a few items each time you shop, and we'll have collection details for you closer to November.
- ⇒ **Transportation Drivers Needed - [Servant Opportunity](#)**
WGT is looking for folks willing to volunteer their time to transport folks, unable to drive, that may need a ride to appointments. If this is something you would be interested in volunteering with, please see Marcia Hawthorne or call the church office.

Prayer

If you would like anointing/prayer, please come to the front of the sanctuary at the end of the service and a deacon or the pastor will be happy to pray with you. Prayer needs may be emailed to prayer@westgreentree.org, sent using the online form located under 'worship' on the website, or called in to the church office.

This week, our congregation is holding the Philadelphia First Congregation in prayer. May our great God provide for them abundantly, and may they know, love, and follow Jesus by serving all.



This Week at West Green Tree

TODAY		COBYS Bike & Hike
Monday, September 14		Tiny Timbers First Day
	11:00 a. m.	Ladies Bible Study
Tuesday, September 15		Tiny Timbers First Day
	7:00 p. m.	Ministry Team Meetings
Wednesday, September 16	6:30 p. m.	Youth
	7:00 p. m.	Prayer Shawl Gathering
Thursday, September 17	7:00 p. m.	Men's Bible Study
Saturday, September 19	7:00 a. m.	Men's Bible Study

Future Events at West Green Tree

Sunday, September 20	9:45 a. m.	Jr. Church Returns
	After LGG	Christmas Fellowship Meal Mtg.
Monday, September 21		Newsletter Submissions Due
September 25 & 26		BDR Auction
Saturday, October 3		District Conference
Sunday, October 4	After LGG	Love Feast/Meal
Sunday, October 25		Noah's Ark Parade

West Green Tree Deacons

Dewey & Kathy Martin	717-629-9343 (Dewey)
	717-341-9253 (Kathy)
Cliff & Dawn Shirk	717-405-4914 (Cliff)
	717-468-1761 (Dawn)
Mike & Marcia Hawthorne	717-689-0460 (Mike)
	717-475-9314 (Marcia)
Sylvia Coble	717-602-3434 (Sylvia)

Contact Information

740 Greentree Road
Elizabethtown, PA 17022
Phone: 717-653-5367
www.westgreentree.org

Gathering Times

Sunday School/Small Groups 8:30 am
Large Group Gathering 9:45 am

New to WGT?

New Here? Scan the QR code and tell us about yourself! Stop at the Welcome Center outside the sanctuary for a small gift and for info about our church! Thanks for gathering with us!

If you would like further information please visit our website:

www.westgreentree.org/new-to-wgt

