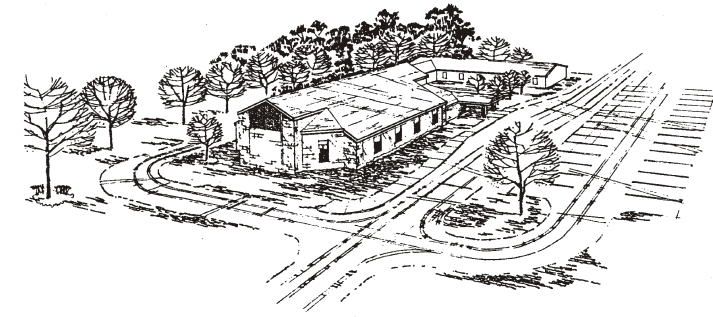
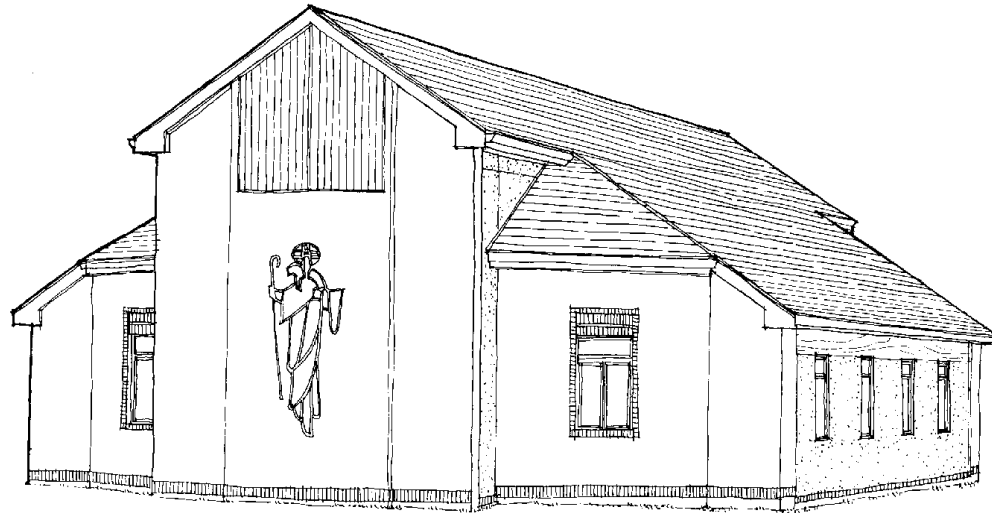


*“Nurturing in the Love of God through Jesus Christ who strengthens us by becoming better stewards of all that God has blessed us with, that we and others might have a closer relationship with God through Jesus Christ.”*



## Good Shepherd United Church of Christ



### Pastor

James D. Robison, Jr.

### Consistory Members

#### Elders

Pam Puskas      Barry Silfies      Karen Kuntzman      David DeLong

#### Deacons

James George      Marie Detrick      Michael Bowers      Brandi DeLong  
Edward Smith      Edgar Smith      Stephen Haas      Justin Zelinsky

#### Youth Deacons

Amanda Bowers      Bryan Puskas

### Christian Education Officers and Representatives

**Superintendent:** Alana Smoyer  
**Asst. Superintendent:** Brenda Horn  
**Secretary:** Carrie Block  
**Congregational Representatives:** Debbie Silfies and Taylor Farber  
**Consistory Liaison:** Brandi DeLong  
**Road Sign Preacher:** Tina Minnich and Jackie Minnich  
**Snack Coordinator:** Barry Silfies and Frank Johnson

### Committee Chairpersons

Carol Oswald, Altar Guild	John Zellner, Memorial
Vacant, Audit	David DeLong, Nominating
Victoria Fink, Communications & Marketing	Michael Bowers, Personnel
Lynne Newhard, Evangelism	John Zellner, Property
Vacant, Fund Raising	Marie Detrick, Social Ministry
Krista Williams, Health & Wellness	Monica Griffith, Stewardship
Tadd Williams, Health & Wellness	Annette Haas, Worship & Music

**A History of**  
**GOOD SHEPHERD UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
~ November 8, 2009 ~

## HISTORY OF GOOD SHEPHERD UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Good Shepherd United Church of Christ, Slatington, PA officially began on November 4, 1984 when the congregation affirmed a new name for themselves, adopted a new constitution to govern their efforts and appointed a building committee to establish plans for a new place of worship. Prior to this time the congregation was known as Holy Trinity and was in union with the Lutheran congregation in Slatedale for ninety-six years. In the mid 1800's, the inhabitants of Slatedale who were members of the German Reformed and Lutheran faiths, many of whom belonged to either the Heidelberg Church or Friedens Church, gathered together as a Sunday school which was located on Brown Street on the north side of Slatedale. From 1871 to 1880 the Reverend Levi K. Derr, a Reformed minister serving Friedens Church and St. John's Church in Slatington, preached at regular intervals at the Lehigh Furnace and Slatedale Public School Houses. The local residents found this more convenient since they had to commute either by horse and buggy or walk the distance to attend church services. The congregation was still not formally organized until 1888 when the Reverend J.S. Renninger, a Lutheran minister along with H.W. Blose, William B. Krause, William Steele, Wilson Rex, Peter Ferber, J.H. Snyder, and Henry Kern organized a mission church consisting of both Lutherans and Reformeds. The Reverend Nevin W. Helffrich became pastor of the Reformed congregation in 1888 even though his name does not appear among the original organizers.

One of the first things this group accomplished was the purchase of the original site of the church. On April 1, 1889 a 100 by 150 foot lot was purchased for \$200 from Mr. and Mrs. Joseph German and the two congregations chose the name St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran and Reformed Church. A building committee consisting of H.W. Blose, chairperson; J.H. Snyder, secretary; Lafayette German, treasurer; Peter Ferber and Daniel Heintzelman was appointed. Construction immediately began on the foundation of the church using stones from Blue Mountain. Serious financial problems arose in 1889 and the property was sold by the sheriff to Keck and Company of Allentown. Keck and Company intended to turn the structure into a factory, but a closer look at the deed showed that Joseph German had included a clause stating that the property could only be used for a Lutheran and Reformed Church. This small clause saved the church from becoming a factory. The property was purchased on June 26, 1901 by Lafayette German and Henry Kern and was resold to a committee of the original organizers on February 9, 1903 for a reduced price. At this time the two congregations agreed to change the name to Holy Trinity and with a renewed sense of spirit and a stronger sense of commitment to the ministry of Christ in the community the congregations began to move forward.

The Lehigh Classis of the German Reformed denomination combined the Slatedale Church and Friedens Church together forming the Friedens Charge in 1902. On April 10, 1903 the Reformed congregation was ready for their first official pastor and extended a call to the Reverend Augustus Piscatur. On May 28, 1903 the congregation was officially reorganized and construction resumed on the building project. By the summer of 1904 the main auditorium was finished and the first Holy Communion was celebrated that fall. The 40 by 70 foot brick structure was completed through the tireless efforts of members such as William Steele who donated their labor. The cost of the completed church was about \$6,400 with the Reverend Nevin W. Helffrich donating the pews in the main auditorium. The dedication of the church took place on July 21, 1904 with services in the morning, afternoon, and evening.

On May 24, 1931 Robert J. Urffer was ordained and installed as pastor of the Friedens Neffs Slatedale Charge with the services taking place at the Union Church in Neffs. Urffer's arrival coincided with the congregation's decision to cease conducting occasional services in the German language. It was during his pastorate of twenty-seven years, the longest in the congregation's history, that the Reformed Church denomination merged with the Evangelical denomination becoming the Evangelical and Reformed Church on June 26, 1934. Another merger occurred when the Evangelical and Reformed Church joined together with the Congregational and Christian Church forming the United Church of Christ on June 25, 1957.

After Reverend Urffer ended his ministry with Holy Trinity on June 15, 1958, the United Church of Christ congregation had a series of short pastorates, supplies, and student pastors until January 1, 1976, when James Knappenberger, a student at Moravian Seminary, officially became the student pastor. On June 12, 1977, a week after his ordination, the congregation called the Reverend James L. Knappenberger as the church's first full-time pastor and regular weekly services soon began. The congregation was incorporated on November 16, 1978 through the efforts of the following: James Mack, Clifford Smith, Rosann Friebolin, Charles Thomas and Deanna Kern. Through this incorporation the church committed itself to providing worship of Almighty God and was organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and scientific purposes. On July 17, 1983 the United Church of Christ congregation, by a vote of 66 to 36, gave approval for the dissolution of the union with the Lutheran congregation. A week later on July 24, the Lutheran congregation, by a vote of 38 to 30, also approved of the dissolution which formally took effect on March 25, 1984. In this dissolution, the United Church of Christ congregation received a settlement of \$10,000 plus ownership of Fellowship Park.

Fellowship Park consisted of approximately six (6) acres of land situated at the western boundary of Slatedale along Grant Street. Around 1926 Phaon and Alphina Muthard developed the area into an outdoor public gathering place. Through community efforts a band pavilion, refreshment stand and a shelter for picnic tables were built. The Loyal Men's Bible Class of Holy Trinity Sunday School acquired the park for \$1,200 on July 7, 1947. The Sunday school class, under the leadership of Ellwood Heintzelman, continued to maintain the park for church and community purposes. On March 9, 1986 the congregation decided to sell the Fellowship Park for \$15,250.

On January 17, 1985 an amendment was filed to change the name of the corporation from Holy Trinity to Good Shepherd. This petition was signed by Madeline Balliet, consistory president. The church adopted a logo of a representation of Jesus Christ holding a lamb and incorporating the ideals of the congregation - working, worshipping, and growing together in the love of Christ, the Good Shepherd.

A Property Search Committee was established to investigate possible sites for the new church. Members of this committee included the Reverend James Knappenberger, George Bowers, Elwood German, Jeff Coffin and Fred Allerton. On May 6, 1984 the congregation approved the purchase of the present grounds (8.1 acres) for \$29,500 from George Husack (1.76 acres) and Blue Mountain Investments (6.2939 acres) located about 3 miles west of Lehigh Gap facing Blue Mountain on Mountain Road. The area was formerly known as the Harry Rex Farm. On October 20, 1985 a ground breaking service was held for the first phase of a three phase building project. Richard Smith chaired the executive building committee which included Fred and Suzanne Allerton, Bobby and Madeline Balliet, Joanne Bauer, David Bilheimer, Jeff Coffin, Clark DeLong, Brian Haas, Lee Haas, Deanna Kern, John Kisthardt, James and Pam Knappenberger, Kerry Loch and Shirley Wagner. A project executive committee was also established to create a capital funds campaign to raise money for the new building consisting of John Kisthardt, chairperson; Madeline Balliet, David Bilheimer, Paul Hewitt, Kerry Loch, Marie Rex, Marilyn Smith, and Shirley Wagner. A contractor by the name of Serfass Construction Company, Inc. of Allentown was hired to build the church. The church was designed by architects Fred and Suzanne Allerton who were both members of the congregation. The first worship service in the new sanctuary was conducted on December 7, 1986. On the morning of April 26, 1987 the furnishings of the building were dedicated at a special service. That afternoon the organ was dedicated at another special service with Michael Fister presiding at the organ and Pamela S. Knappenberger presiding at the piano. A Youth Rally was organized for May 2 featuring keynote speaker the Reverend Eleanor Allen, Assistant Conference Minister for Penn

Northeast Conference. The new building was dedicated on May 3, 1987 with the Reverend Earl Marks delivering the main address entitled, "*The Building Has Just Begun.*"

The initial year in the new building was an exciting time for the congregation filled with many firsts. The first baptisms in the new sanctuary took place on December 14, 1986 when Lauren Rose Balliet and Amberly Kay Gable were christened. The first wedding to be performed in the new church occurred on December 27, 1986 for Arthur Kuntz and Lisa Smith as they pledged their marriage vows to one another before God. The first funeral conducted at the church was for Merion C. Fritz on January 12, 1987. He was 82 years old at the time of his death on January 7, 1987. On May 31, 1987 the rite of confirmation was celebrated in the new building for the first time with the following members joining the church: Jason D. Blose, Joanne M. DeLong, Wayne P. Ebert, Jeremy J. Frable, Travis N. Frantz, Matthew D. Hewitt, Allison L. Kisthardt, Robert F. Kulp, III, David F. Neff, Jr., Gerald A. Neff, Jr., Scott A. Pollock, Barry A. Rice, Jr., Angela S. Shelly, Lisa A. Walters, Chad R. Wilt, and Alana S. Zellner.

Because Good Shepherd received a bequest of \$180,000 from the estate of Cora Husack, the congregation voted in November 1998 to pay off the balance of the existing mortgage against the sanctuary. It was also decided to move ahead with the next two phases of the original building project. A building committee consisting of Lee Haas, chairperson; Madeline Balliet, Clark DeLong, Ron Frederick, Dale Knittle, Kerry Loch, Barry Silfies, David Silfies and the Reverend James Robison was appointed by the Consistory. Plans for the second and third phases of the building project were drawn up by architect Joseph Reda. The finance committee chosen to recommend a banking institution for securing a mortgage consisted of Gina Brown, Michele Hunsicker, Dean Knittle, Barbara Kremposky, and Darwin Minnich. Citizens Bank of Slatington was recommended and chosen. The total cost for construction was \$422,928 with \$140,000 being funded by the church from the Cora Husack Estate leaving the church to borrow \$283,000 from the bank. At a meeting following church services on March 7, 1999 the congregation voted 79 to 4 in favor of the building project. C & C Construction under Michael Cassidy's supervision was chosen as the contractor for the building project with Joseph Reda acting as the liaison on the behalf of Good Shepherd. A celebration was held on April 11, 1999 with Madeline Balliet and Richard Smith burning the mortgage for the sanctuary followed by the ground breaking by Ron Frederick, Lee Haas, Barbara DeLong and the children of Good Shepherd. Furnishings for the new building project came from memorials and gifts and were dedicated with the new Christian Education Wing, Kitchen, and Fellowship Hall on Ascension Day, Thursday, June 1, 2000.

As the first decade of the new century unfolded, the congregation of Good Shepherd continued diligently in opening the church doors wide in order to share the message of hope and salvation in the service of Christ. On March 4, 2001, due to the increase in attendance, the congregation began two worship services on Sunday mornings - one at 8:30 and the other at 11:00. Midweek Lenten services continued and two new services were reintroduced - Ascension Day services in May and Reformation Day services in October. The congregation also continued a close relationship with Holy Trinity Lutheran Church sharing in community services such as Good Friday and Thanksgiving Eve and participating in the Slatedale Ministerium. The ecumenical spirit was also nurtured through the Northern Lehigh Pastoral Association where Good Shepherd joined with other churches and denominations to support the scholarship fund for Northern Lehigh High School, the Longest Night services for those dealing with emotional issues during the Christmas season, and the Northern Lehigh Food Bank which assists those in the community struggling financially and find it difficult to provide food for their families. Within the United Church of Christ, Good Shepherd continued to participate in the larger Church through financial support of Penn Northeast Conference as well as a number of church members serving on conference committees; and our pastor, the Reverend James Robison has served as convener for the Blue Mountain Area Mission Council since 1999.

The congregation also opened the facility to the larger community as well, providing space for organizations to conduct their meetings and gather for fellowship. Two of these organizations that have been faithful in meeting at Good Shepherd are Back to Basics Alcoholics Anonymous since March 1994 and the Slatington Senior Citizens beginning in April 2001. Through civic-minded people like Susie Olewine, owner of Susie's Shady Nook Restaurant, the Greater Northern Lehigh Chamber of Commerce began a program entitled "Properties of Merit" encouraging others to follow the example of those home owners and other organizations that create a warm and inviting look to the community. On September 15, 2007, Good Shepherd was the first church to receive the Property of Merit recognition for a community of faith in our area.

Through the Christian Education Program, the children and youth of the congregation continued to grow and develop in their faith through Sunday School, children's church, vacation Bible school, youth fellowship, and confirmation. The present Sunday School enrollment is 83 with an average weekly attendance of 45. The Christian Education Committee has organized and sponsored the annual Easter egg hunt, as well as the Easter and Christmas pageants in addition to Family Fun Day and Children's Church. All those working with children and youth under the age of 18 are required to have a background and

clearance check in order to make Good Shepherd a Safe Church. Since 1987 Good Shepherd has sponsored a Vacation Bible School, and for seventeen of those twenty-three years Barbara DeLong has been the director, coordinating the event which has been a blessing to many of the young people in Slatedale and the surrounding area. The youth of the congregation have answered the call of faith and found outlets of sharing that faith through assisting at the Northern Lehigh Food Bank, making baskets for the homebound and elderly of the congregation at Christmas and Easter, collecting cans of soup for "Soup"er Bowl Sunday, and Christmas caroling to the homebound. The youth also have found opportunities to enjoy each others company through their annual hayride in the autumn, and going bowling or roller skating at various times. The confirmation classes have taken part in trips to Lancaster Theological Seminary, Bethany Children's Home, Lehigh County Conference of Churches, Turning Point, Allentown Rescue Mission, and the Allentown Soup Kitchen, and many of the youth have been inspired to serve those less fortunate. Since 2003 members of the Confirmation Class of 2004 have spearheaded the annual blanket drive in November to help the homeless through Lehigh County Council of Churches' Linkage program. Over several years, three confirmation classes ~ 2002, 2004, and 2006 ~ worked at clearing the land, building a stone wall, and raising money to help create the beautiful Meditation Garden, which was dedicated on June 23, 2006.

All in all, the congregation is as committed today as they were twenty-five years ago to fulfilling their commitment to the work of Christ ~ creating a place where all are welcome to worship God; finding creative ways of compassionate and caring service; and growing together in Christian discipleship. May the Good Shepherd continue to be our guide and our stay as we continue to learn about the Good Shepherd and how much the Good Shepherd loves and cares for everyone.



This history is a collection and redaction of earlier histories including *A History of the Friedens Evangelical and Reformed Charge, Lehigh Synod, Pennsylvania* written in 1958 by Russell Levi James Heintzelman, *A Short History of Slatedale Park* by Walter H. Krum and Reverend David L. Hess, as well as the booklet *History of Holy Trinity Lutheran and United Church of Christ, Slatedale, PA* written for the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 1963. These combined with primary sources such as Church Records and Consistory Minutes have created a fuller history along with interviews with the previous pastors and some congregants making the history current in time for our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a congregation.

My hope is that this record of Good Shepherd's journey thus far be preserved for future generations as a source of vital and accurate information. May those who are given the duty and responsibility of stewarding the course of this congregation be diligent in their task, and may their ministry and mission meet great success in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior.

~ James D. Robison, Jr., Pastor

**ROSTER OF PASTORS SERVING HOLY TRINITY CHURCH**

Nevin W. Helffrich, mission pastor	1888-1902
Augustus Piscator	April 10, 1903 - April 30, 1909
James O. Oswald	March 3, 1910 - December 17, 1927†
George W. Lutz	October 1, 1928 - May 4, 1929†
Robert J. Urffer, student pastor	July 28, 1929 - May 24, 1931
Robert J. Urffer	May 24, 1931 - June 15, 1958
Robert J. Urffer, supply pastor	June 15, 1958 - June 30, 1960
Charles Bornman, supply pastor	June 15, 1958 - June 30, 1960
Merle U. Fox	July 1, 1960 - November 28, 1962
Chester H. Haas, student pastor	January 1, 1963 - June 18, 1967
Chester H. Haas	June 18, 1967 - February 1, 1968
Milton A. May, supply pastor	January 1, 1969 - February 15, 1970
Charles D. Rockel	March 29, 1970 - September 30, 1973
Emmett L. Wentzell	October 1, 1973 - April 30, 1975
James L. Knappenberger, student pastor	November 17, 1975 - June 12, 1977
James L. Knappenberger	June 12, 1977 - November 4, 1984

**ROSTER OF PASTORS SERVING GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH**

James L. Knappenberger	November 4, 1984 - June 24, 1990
Morgan S. Haney, interim pastor	July 1, 1990 - February 1, 1992
Willard S. Rabert, Jr.	March 2, 1992 - June 30, 1997
George R. Eckstein, interim pastor	August 10, 1997 - September 30, 1998
James D. Robison, Jr.	October 1, 1998 - present

**STATISTICS OF RITES AND SACRAMENTS FOR GOOD SHEPHERD**

**November 4, 1984 - November 4, 2009**

~ 294 BAPTISMS ~					
J. L. Knappenberger	83	W. S. Rabert, Jr.	58	J. D. Robison, Jr.	128
M. S. Haney	14	G. R. Eckstein	11	Others	0
~ 166 CONFIRMANDS ~					
J. L. Knappenberger	59	W. S. Rabert, Jr.	18	J. D. Robison, Jr.	77
M. S. Haney	9	G. R. Eckstein	3	Others	0
~ 187 WEDDINGS ~					
J. L. Knappenberger	64	W. S. Rabert, Jr.	23	J. D. Robison, Jr.	79
M. S. Haney	9	G. R. Eckstein	9	Others	3
~ 239 FUNERALS ~					
J. L. Knappenberger	69	W. S. Rabert, Jr.	50	J. D. Robison, Jr.	99
M. S. Haney	4	G. R. Eckstein	10	Others	7

**PASTORS OF GOOD SHEPHERD UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**Reverend James L. Knappenberger**

January 1, 1976 - June 24, 1990

James Lee Knappenberger was born on March 12, 1952 in Allentown, PA to Warren and Shirley (Rumfield) Knappenberger. Jim graduated from Parkland High School in 1970 and West Chester University in 1974 where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Secondary Education/Latin. Jim attended Moravian Seminary, graduating with a Master of Divinity degree in 1977. During his time at Moravian Seminary, Jim served Holy Trinity as a student pastor officially beginning on January 1, 1976. Jim was ordained on June 5, 1977 and was installed as the first full-time pastor of Holy Trinity United Church of Christ on June 12, 1977. On November 24, 1973 Jim married Pamela Susan Peters, born July 31, 1951 to Edward and Annie (Wetherhold) Peters. Jim and Pam have two children, Rebecca Amy, born August 8, 1977, and Joshua David, born August 23, 1982. Joshua is presently enrolled at Moravian Seminary and is hoping to follow a calling into ordained ministry.

During Jim’s pastorate, the congregation began weekly worship services soon after he was installed as full-time pastor in 1977. About 1980, the congregation purchased a bus which they painted white and named the *Holy Ghost*. The initial reason for the bus was to go throughout the community and transport the children to Vacation Bible School. They also used this bus for field trips for the confirmation classes and the youth group. Jim also guided the congregation through the dissolution of the union with the Lutheran congregation from 1983 to 1984. On November 4, 1984, the congregation also made a break with the past and embraced the future with the adoption of a new constitution, the changing of the congregation’s name from Holy Trinity to Good Shepherd, and the decision of relocating the church. In 1985 the congregation approved the purchase of the present grounds (8.1 acres), and that same year ground was broken for the first phase of a three-phase building project. In 1986 the congregation sold Fellowship Park and a pavilion was built in the grove behind the new church in 1988. The first worship service in the new sanctuary was conducted on December 7, 1986. In 1987 the furnishings and building were dedicated. Jim attended General Synod in 1981 at Rochester, NY and in 1983 at Pittsburgh, PA.

After leaving Good Shepherd, Reverend Knappenberger accepted a call to serve as pastor of St. Paul’s, Trexlertown, PA where he served from 1990 to 2007, retiring from ministry on November 1, 2007. Jim continues to enjoy hunting and working on cars, and serving as interim pastor as well as supply preaching. The Reverend Morgan S. Haney became interim pastor from July 1, 1990 to March 1, 1992 following Reverend Knappenberger’s pastorate.

**Reverend Willard S. Rabert, Jr.**

March 2, 1992 - June 30, 1997

Willard Stetler Rabert, Jr. was born on July 20, 1933 in Binghamton, NY, the son of Willard and Waneta (Anderson) Rabert. Will graduated from Binghamton North High School in 1951 and Defiance College, OH on June 5, 1955. That same date he married Martha Strite, born August 19, 1935 to Harold and Doris (Huffman) Strite. Will and Martha have three children: Allen D., Lynn M., and Laurie A. Will and Martha are also the grandparents of two: Richard Krokkel and Nicholas Krokkel and the great grandparents of Alex Kelly and Kayla Kelly. Will graduated from Lancaster Theological Seminary in 1959 and was ordained at St. John's United Church of Christ, Nazareth, PA on June 14, 1959. Will served the following churches before coming to Good Shepherd: St. John's, Nazareth as an assistant pastor, 1959-1961; Grace, York, PA, 1961-1970; Grace "Eden", Lancaster, PA, 1970-1978; New Covenant, Williamsport, PA, 1978-1986; and St. John's, Freeland, PA, 1986-1992. Reverend Rabert presented a trial sermon at Good Shepherd on January 12, 1992 and was called to pastor the congregation beginning on March 2, 1992 and was installed on April 5, 1992. He continued at Good Shepherd until his retirement from pastoral ministry on June 30, 1997. During his tenure at Good Shepherd, Will oversaw the introduction of the blessings and prayer requests for birthdays and anniversaries during worship; the children's bag for children's time; blessing the children during Holy Communion; bringing a live sheep to worship once a year; and collecting of the Joyful Noise Offering by children to support missions beyond the church walls. Also during his pastorate, Wanda Reda, Lisa Sensinger and Will Rabert wrote an original children's Christmas play, "The Littlest Christmas Tree" which was presented at the church. Will served as a delegate to General Synod in 1993 when it was held at St. Louis, MO. Will felt an importance to visiting the elderly as well as being involved with the community on behalf of the congregation. One of the attributes that Will appreciated most about the Good Shepherd congregation was its flexibility and he prays the congregation remains attentive to the changes happening within the church and the community.

Presently, Will and Martha enjoy retirement in Pleasant Hill, TN where he had been in charge of all the work camps and rebuilding of burnt churches from 1997 to 1999. From 1999 to 2007, Will was commissioned as a disaster relief consultant for Church World Service and Southeast Conference of the United Church of Christ which covers Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia, and parts of Mississippi, South Carolina, and the Florida panhandle. The Reverend George R. Eckstein served as interim pastor at Good Shepherd from August 10, 1997 to September 30, 1998 following Reverend Rabert's pastorate.

**Reverend James D. Robison, Jr.**

October 1, 1998 - present

James Daryl Robison, Jr. was born on August 21, 1961 at Lewisburg Evangelical Hospital, Lewisburg, PA to James and Patricia (Koch) Robison. He was baptized on April 15, 1962 by the Reverend John L. Herbster, and was confirmed on October 12, 1975 by the Reverend Philip K. Nace, both at Trinity United Church of Christ, Watsontown, PA. James graduated from Warrior Run High School, Turbotville, PA in 1979. In 1983 he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Secondary Education/Comprehensive Social Studies from Bloomsburg University, Bloomsburg, PA. After graduating from college James taught school for one year at Landmark School North in Manchester by the Sea, MA working with students with dyslexia, and then returned to Warrior Run High School where he taught ninth, tenth, and eleventh grade history. In 1995 James entered Lancaster Theological Seminary, graduating in 1998. He was called to be pastor of Good Shepherd on August 30, 1998 and began on October 1, 1998. James was ordained on October 31, 1998 at his home church of Trinity, Watsontown, PA and was installed on January 24, 1999 at Good Shepherd. The Reverend Russell L. J. Heintzelman was the mentoring pastor for James during his first year at Good Shepherd.

During James' pastorate, plans for the second and third phases of the building project were finalized with architect Joe Reda preparing the blue prints on behalf of the congregation; groundbreaking for the construction of the Christian Education Wing and Fellowship Hall took place in 2000; the additions and furnishings were dedicated in 2001; paving the blacktop occurred in 2004; dedication of the meditation garden in 2006; and compiling the Church Records of Good Shepherd (1984-2009) into one typed document as well as organizing and typing the records for Holy Trinity United Church of Christ (1959-1984), filling in the gaps caused by frequently changing interims and supply pastors during the late 1960s and early 1970s. James has served as convener of Blue Mountain Area Mission Council since September 1999; president of Guardianship Support Agency, Inc. since July 2004; and chairperson of Northern Lehigh Connections from August 2002 until August 2004. James served as a delegate to General Synod in 2001 at Kansas City, MO and in 2003 at Minneapolis, MN.

Pastor James' hope for the future of Good Shepherd is for a deepening sense of faith in Jesus Christ as the congregation embraces a larger call to the commitment of Christian ministry and service not only in Slatedale but throughout the world, opening the doors wide to all of God's children who seek to find God more fully in Christ.

## CONSISTORY OFFICERS OF GOOD SHEPHERD UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Since November 4, 1984

### Presidents

George Bowers	1984	Ronald Frederick	1999-01
Madeline Balliet	1985-87	Jeff Coffin	2001
Kerry Loch	1988	Kerry Loch	2002-03
Ronald Frederick	1989-90	Kenneth Reimert	2004-05
Lee Haas	1991-95	Barry Silfies	2006-
Clark DeLong	1996-98		

### Vice Presidents

Jeff Coffin	1984-86	Dean Knittle	1998-99
Kerry Loch	1987	Jeff Coffin	1999-01
John Kisthardt	1988	Barry Silfies	2002-05
Kerry Loch	1989-90	George Bowers	2006-08
Madeline Balliet	1991-95	Edgar Smith	2009
Brett Hunsicker	1996-97		

### Secretaries

Frederick Allerton	1984-86	Carol Oswald	2004-07
Marie Rex	1986-92	Cindy Long	2008
Barbara DeLong	1993-96	Amanda Bowers	2008
Deb Knappenberger	1997-98	Debbie Silfies	2009
Wanda Reda	1999-03		

### Treasurers

David Bilheimer	1984-96	Pam Fink	2008
Barbara Kremposky	1997-07	Cindy Long	2009

### Financial Secretaries

Elaine Bilheimer	1984-98	Tara George	2002-04
Gina Brown	1999	Suzanne Stafiniak Blose	2005-
Brian Haas	2000-01		

## CONSISTORY MEMBERS OF GOOD SHEPHERD UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Since November 4, 1984

### Elders

Lee Haas	1984-95
Madeline Balliet	1984-88, 1991-98
Glenn Knappenberger	1984-86
Frederick Allerton	1984-86 <sup>①</sup>
Kerry Loch	1986-90, 1996-00, 2002-04 <sup>⑦</sup>
John Kisthardt	1987-89 <sup>②</sup>
David Bilheimer	1989-96
Ronald Frederick	1989-92 <sup>③</sup> , 1999-01 <sup>⑥</sup>
Shirley Wagner	1993 <sup>④</sup>
Jeff Coffin	1994-01
Dean Knittle	1997-99 <sup>⑤</sup>
Linda Bowers	2000-05 <sup>⑧</sup>
Monica Griffith	2001-08
Barry Silfies	2001-10
Pam Puskas	2005-06 <sup>⑨</sup> , 2007-09
Barbara Lorah	2006-07
Karen Kuntzman	2008-11
David DeLong	2009-12

<sup>①</sup> Resigned May 1986 and replaced by Kerry Loch

<sup>②</sup> Resigned September 1989 and replaced by Ronald Frederick

<sup>③</sup> Resigned September 1992 and replaced by David Bilheimer

<sup>④</sup> Resigned September 1993 and replaced by David Bilheimer

<sup>⑤</sup> Resigned August 1999 and replaced by Kerry Loch

<sup>⑥</sup> Resigned November 2001 and replaced by Barry Silfies

<sup>⑦</sup> Resigned December 2004 and replaced by Pam Puskas

<sup>⑧</sup> Resigned May 2005 and replaced by Barbara Lorah

<sup>⑨</sup> Resigned June 2006 and returned in November 2007

### ~~~~~ Youth Deacons

Michael Shock	1985-86	Susan Heller	2001
Robert Hahn, Jr.	1987	Stephen Reimert	2002
Katrina Lienhard	1988	Wesley Loch	2003-04
Valerie Walters	1989-90, 1993	Katie White	2003-04
Jennifer Coffin	1991-92	Alan DeLong	2005-06
Vacant	1994-95	Melissa Lorah	2005-06
David Silfies	1996-97	Kyle Kremposky	2007
Julie Coffin	1998	Zachary Solt	2007-08
Amy Loch	1999	Bryan Puskas	2008-09
Emily Silfies	2000	Amanda Bowers	2009

## Deacons

Jeff Hewitt	1984-87
Deanna Kern	1984-88
Edwin Krum	1984-85, 1992-93
Barbara Lorah	1984-88 <sup>2</sup> , 2005 <sup>16</sup>
Jeff Coffin	1984-86, 1990-93 <sup>6</sup>
Jane Falat	1984-86, 1994-95
Kerry Loch	1984-86 <sup>1</sup> , 1992-95
Shirley Wagner	1984-90
Linda Bowers	1984-87
Evelyn Haas	1986-88
Paul Hewitt	1986-89
Earl Knittle	1986-92 *
Warren Horn	1987-91 *
Donald Nagle	1987-90
Ronald Frederick	1988-89 <sup>3</sup>
Vivian Neff	1988-90 <sup>4</sup>
Dean Knittle	1989-96 <sup>7</sup>
Barry Silfies	1989-92, 1996-01 <sup>12</sup>
Marie Rex Detrick	1990-92 <sup>5</sup> , 2005-10
Barbara DeLong	1991-98, 2000-05
Darwin Minnich	1991-94
Brian Haas	1993-96
Matthew Rex	1993-96
Clark DeLong	1994-00 <sup>†2</sup>
Brett Hunsicker	1995-00 <sup>10</sup>
Suzanne Stafiniak	1996-03
Ralph Hilty	1997 <sup>9</sup>

Monica Griffith	1997-00
Shirley White	1997-98 <sup>†1</sup>
Gina Brown	1998-99 <sup>2</sup>
Kenny Reimert	1998-05
George Bowers	1999-08
Jonathan Griffith	1999-06
Darlene Kocher	2001 <sup>11</sup>
Tammy Wisler	2001-05 <sup>15</sup>
Pam Puskas	2001-02 <sup>13</sup>
Lynn Beekman	2001-03
Craig Solt	2002-04
Jane Evans	2004-05 <sup>14</sup>
Susan Heller	2004-07
Karen Kuntzman	2005-07
Scott Miller	2005**
Marie Bachman	2006 <sup>17</sup>
James George	2006-09
Edward Smith	2006-09
Keith Horn	2007-08
Edgar Smith	2007-10
David DeLong	2008 <sup>18</sup>
Michael Bowers	2008-11
Stephen Haas	2009-11
Brandi DeLong	2009-12
Justin Zelinsky	2009-12

<sup>1</sup> Promoted to Elder June 1986 and replaced by Earl Knittle

<sup>2</sup> Resigned February 1988 and replaced by Ronald Frederick

<sup>3</sup> Promoted to Elder November 1989 and replaced by Dean Knittle

<sup>4</sup> Resigned November 1990 and replaced by Jeff Coffin

<sup>5</sup> Resigned August 1992 and replaced by Edwin Krum

<sup>6</sup> Elected to Elder and replaced by Jane Falat for remaining 2 years

<sup>7</sup> Elected to Elder and replaced by Monica Griffith for 1 year

<sup>8</sup> Resigned and replaced by Monica Griffith,

<sup>9</sup> Resigned April 1999 and replaced by George Bowers

<sup>10</sup> Resigned November 2000 and replaced by Tammy Wisler

<sup>11</sup> Resigned May 2001 and replaced by Pam Puskas

<sup>12</sup> Promoted to Elder November 2001 and replaced by Lynn Beekman

<sup>13</sup> Resigned in June 2002 and replaced by Craig Solt

<sup>14</sup> Resigned in April 2005 and replaced by Karen Kuntzman

<sup>15</sup> Resigned in July 2005 and replaced by Marie Detrick

<sup>16</sup> Elected to Elder December 2005 and replaced by Marie Bachman

<sup>17</sup> Resigned in 2006 and replaced by Keith Horn

<sup>18</sup> Elected to Elder November 2008 and replaced by Stephen Haas

<sup>†1</sup> Died March 19, 1998 and replaced by Gina Brown

<sup>†2</sup> Died May 27, 2000 and replaced by Barbara DeLong

\* Term extended 1 year

\*\*Special election in July 2005 created 1 year only position

## INDIVIDUALS OF HOLY TRINITY/GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH ENTERING CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

**Reverend Russell L. J. Heintzelman**

Ordained June 22, 1958

Russell Levi James Heintzelman was born on February 26, 1931 in Germans Corner, Lehigh County, PA, the son of Fred A. and Iva (Schleicher) Heintzelman and was raised by his grandparents James and Elizabeth (Frantz) Schleicher. Russell was baptized on March 29, 1931 by the Reverend Thomas Bachman, pastor of Heidelberg Charge, and was confirmed on October 21, 1944 at Holy Trinity Evangelical and Reformed Church in Slatedale by the Reverend Robert J. Urffer. Russell graduated from Slatington High School in 1948, and from Penn State College in 1952 where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering. After serving in the United States Air Force from 1952-1954, Russell was employed by PP&L. On June 16, 1956 Russell married Corinne Mae Miller, born March 15, 1937 to Clayton and Josephine (Worman) Miller. They were married at St. John's United Church of Christ, Slatington, PA by the Reverend Paul P. Haas. They have three sons: Michael Eugene, born August 23, 1957; David Thomas, born October 30, 1961; and Stephen Mark, born January 22, 1964; two granddaughters, Amanda and Carley; and a great granddaughter, Savannah.

In September 1955, Russell entered Lancaster Theological Seminary where he received his Bachelor of Divinity degree on June 3, 1958. On April 6, 1958, he was called as pastor of Deep Creek Charge United Church of Christ, Hegins, PA, and was ordained into Christian ministry by the Lehigh Synod at Holy Trinity United Church of Christ, Slatedale, PA on June 22, 1958 with the Reverend Robert J. Urffer preaching. Russell was installed as pastor of Deep Creek Charge (consisting of four churches) on June 29, 1958.

Russell has served the following congregations: Deep Creek Charge, 1958-1963; Solomon's United Church of Christ, Macungie, PA, 1963-1968; Heidelberg/Ebenezer United Church of Christ Charge, Slatington and New Tripoli, PA, 1968-1988; St. John's United Church of Christ, Slatington, PA, 1988-1998. Russell retired on June 14, 1998 and in 1999 St. John's bestowed on him the title Pastor Emeritus. Since retiring Russell has served a number of churches in Penn Northeast Conference as a supply pastor and presently serves as visitation pastor at St. Peter's Union Church, Mantzville, PA since 2008. Russell has served on the board of directors of Bethany Children's Home and of Phoebe Home, as well as on the Church and Ministry Committee of the Penn Northeast Conference. He also served as a delegate to General Synod in 1983 at Pittsburgh, PA and in 1985 at Ames, IA.



**Reverend Lamar H. Handwerk**

Ordained May 12, 1974

Lamar Henry Handwerk was born in Slatington, PA on February 11, 1939 to Mildred Kern and David Handwerk. Lamar was baptized at home by the Reverend Robert J. Urffer on March 12, 1939, and was confirmed at Holy Trinity Evangelical and Reformed Church on September 28, 1952, also by Reverend Urffer.

On July 26, 1958 Lamar married Daisy-Mae Andrews, daughter of Harvey and Elsie (Eckhart) Andrews, born May 22, 1940. Lamar and Daisy-Mae are the parents of Natalie Marie, born March 4, 1960; Kevin David, born May 30, 1962; and Steven David, born January 24, 1966. They are the grandparents of Danielle, Jacob, Stevie, Ryan and John; step-grandparents of Melissa, Michelene, and Scott; and great grandparents of Alyssa and Gabriel.

Lamar graduated from Slatington High School in 1957; Bethlehem Business School in 1959; and Penn State University in 1962 with a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting. Lamar was a computer operator and bookkeeper for United Gas Improvement Company from 1957 to 1965 and then for Bethlehem Steel Corporation from 1965 to 1974 during which time he attended Moravian Theological Seminary. He served as student pastor at Mt. Zion United Church of Christ in Martins Creek, PA from 1972 to 1974. Lamar graduated from Moravian in 1974 and was ordained into Christian ministry at St. John’s United Church of Christ in Palmerton on May 12, 1974. Lamar served the following parishes: First Congregational United Church of Christ, Harford, PA, 1974-1981; Zion United Church of Christ, Stroudsburg, PA, 1981-1993; Lower Saucon United Church of Christ, Hellertown, PA, 1993-2001. Since retiring July 1, 2001, Lamar has served as interim pastor at Christ United Church of Christ in Walnutport, PA, 2001-2002; and stated supply at St. Peter’s United Church of Christ, Seemsville, PA, 2002-present.

**Pastor Brian L. Haas**

Licensed October 1, 2007

Brian Lee Haas was born in Allentown, PA on October 1, 1961 to Lee and Evelyn (Bachman) Haas. Brian was baptized at the parsonage on January 27, 1962 by Reverend Merle Fox and confirmed at Holy Trinity United Church of Christ, Slatedale, PA on May 4, 1975 by Reverend Emmett Wentzell.

Brian graduated from Slatington High School in 1979 and served in the United States Army Reserve from 1978 to 1984, during which time he attended a number of non-commissioned officer academies. Brian began a career in the trucking industry, serving in numerous

capacities from sales and management to driving. On October 13, 1984 Brian married Karen Esther Bowers, born on February 12, 1960 to Stanley and Arlene (Correll) Bowers. The wedding took place at Friedens UCC with the Reverend James L. Knappenberger officiating. Brian and Karen are the parents of Stephen David, born June 4, 1986, and Beth-Ann Lynn, born April 7, 1990.

Brian became the ministerial intern at Good Shepherd United Church of Christ in June 2004, and answered the call to licensed ministry at Christ United Church of Christ, Walnutport, PA on February 4, 2007 as an unlicensed pastor. On August 8, 2007 the Board of Directors of Penn Northeast Conference approved Brian for licensed ministry pending a valid call which he had received on August 5, 2007 from Christ UCC. His covenant was established on October 1, 2007 and Brian was installed on December 16, 2007 with the Reverend James D. Robison preaching. Brian presently serves on the Board of Directors of Penn Northeast Conference, and is a part-time student at Lehigh Carbon Community College, studying psychology and sociology. He is also a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.



**GOOD SHEPHERD UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

Established 1986

**Christian Education Superintendents**

John Kisthardt	1986-89	Linda Bowers	2001	Pam Puskas	2004-06
Norene Pollock	1989-91	Suzanne Stafiniak	2002-03	Rev. James Robison	2006-07
Barbara DeLong	1991-00	Rev. James Robison	2004	Alana Smoyer	2008-



**Youth Fellowship Advisors**

Rev. James & Pam Knappenberger	1984-90	Monica Griffith	1998
Marie Rex	1984-92	Linda Bowers	2000
Michael Rex	1986-97	Rev. James Robison	2001
Dale Knittle	1987-96	Frank & Penny Berger	2002
Dean Knittle	1987-99	Sharen Rice	2002
Matthew Rex	1988-89; 1992-97	Michele Hunsicker	2003-
Amy Neff Knittle	1990-96	Tammy White	2003-



**Vacation Bible School Directors**

Rev. James Knappenberger	1987-90	Barbara DeLong	1992-99	Tammy White, co.	2000
Norene Pollock	1991	Wanda Reda, co.	2000	Barbara DeLong	2001-09

## Sunday School Teachers

**Cradle Roll:** Laurie Metrick 1989-92; Laura George 1999-01; Sue White 1999-01; **Barbara DeLong 2001-**

**Nursery:** Mary Ellen Bachman 1986-93; Martha Rabert 1993-93; Pam Puskas 1993-96; Wanda Reda 1995- 05; Barbara Kremposky 1996-98; **Dale Knittle 1999-** ; Brenda Christman 2000-01; Sundra Bachman 2003 - 06; **Dean Knittle 2006-**; Ass't Wanda Schwartz 1989-90; Ass't Jennifer Coffin 1993-97; **Ass't Michele Schock 1985-** ; Ass't Dale Knittle 1997-99; Ass't Barbara Sensinger 2001-03; **Katie Hartmaier 2008-**

Nursery II (established 1990; disbanded 1994): Wanda Schwartz Reda 1990-94; Ass't Diane Fister 1991-94; Ass't Laura George 1993-94; Ass't Sharen Rice 1993-94

Kindergarten (disbanded 1999): Marian Balliet 1986-99

**Beginners** [Kindergarten, 1] (established 1999): Marian Balliet 1999-06; Janice Farber 1999-06; **Pam Puskas 2006-** ; Brandi DeLong 2006-08; **Bryan Puskas 2008-**

**Primary** [1,2] (changed in 1999 to include 2 and 3 grades): Marie Rex 1986-91; Shirley White 1986-91; Linda German Wark 1991-97; Penny Bowers Berger 1995-96; **Susie Stafiniak Blose 1996-** ; Sharen Rice 1997-04; **Beth-Ann Haas 2004-** ; Brandi DeLong 2008-09; **Lisa Hydro 2009-**

Third Grade [3] (established for one year - 1995-96): Susie Stafiniak 1995-96

Intermediate [3, 4, 5] (disbanded 1999): Sally Loch 1986-96; Linda Coffin 1986-93; Kerry Loch 1994-96; Pam Puskas 1996-99; Becky Weiss 1996-97

Middler [6, 7] (combined with Junior High 91-93; disbanded 1999): Mabel Knittle 1986-91; Linda Coffin 1993-99; Monica Griffith 1996-99; Ass't Valerie Walters 1987-89

**Junior** [4, 5, 6] (established in 1999): Pam Puskas 1999-02 ; Diane Fister 1999-01; Penny Berger 2001-03, Frank Berger 2002-03; Pam Puskas 2003-06 ; Brenda Christman 2003-04; **Ann Johnson 2004-** ; **Barbara Kremposky 2004-** ; Susan Heller 2004-06; **Phillip White 2006-**

Junior High [8, 9] (combined with Senior High 90-91; changed to include 7, 8 in 1999; disbanded in 2009): Brenda Horn 1986-99; Linda Coffin 1999-09 ; Monica Griffith 1999-09; Amberly Gable 2003-04 ; Ass't Bobby Hahn 1986-92; Ass't Dean Knittle 1993-95

Senior High [9, 10, 11, 12] (combined with Junior High 90-91; no class listed for 94-95; disbanded in 2005): Lee Haas 1984-90; Kerry Loch 1990-94; Brenda Horn 1990-91; 1999-03; Bobby Hahn 1990-91; Dean Knittle 1995-99; Mabel Knittle 1999-01, Karen Kuntzman 2003-04; Susan Heller 2003-04; Scott Miller 2004-05

**Discussion Class** (established in 1990; combined with Senior High Class in 1993; separated in 1999): Lee Haas 1990-92; Willard Rabert 1992-93; Kerry Loch 1999-03; James Robison 1999-01; Susan Heller 2001-02; Phillip White 2001-02; Sally Loch 2002-03; **David DeLong 2009-** ; **Monica Griffith 2009-** ; **James Robison 2009-**

**Adult Class:** Fay Frederick 1986-03; James Robison 2002-03; Brian Haas 2003-07; **Marie Detrick 2007-**

Classes and Names that are in bold print are the present classes and teachers of the Sunday School. School grades are bracketed [ ] and the dates classes were formed, disbanded or changed are in parenthesis ( ).

## CHURCH TIME LINE

November 1984	Good Shepherd officially begins
January 1985	Good Shepherd incorporated
October 1985	Ground Breaking Ceremony for Sanctuary
March 1986	Fellowship Park sold
December 1986	First Worship Service in new Sanctuary
1987-1989	Holy Ghost bus
May 1987	Sanctuary dedicated
August 1988	Construction of Pavilion begun
March 1990	Became charter member of Northern Lehigh Pastoral Association
May 1990	Approved the usage of the Office Trailer for Sunday School
January 1991	Hymnals and Stain Glass Windows dedicated
February 1991	Circle Communion around Altar at Ash Wednesday Service begins
April 1991	Cross draped in black for Good Friday Service
May 1991	Sunday School Trailer set in place
March 1992	World Day of Prayer held at Good Shepherd
September 1992	Became member of Lehigh County Council of Churches
October 1992	Youth Group creates volley ball court
January 1993	Youth Group's first Souper Bowl Party at Fister's home
April 1993	Part of Easter service held outside
May 1993	Shepherd Staff in Chancel area dedicated
July 1993	Cabinets in sacristy installed
July 1993	Good Shepherd Family Fun Day sponsored by Christian Education for first time
August 1993	Grill House completed
September 1993	Evangelism Committee began photographing baptized infants as gift
October 1993	Evangelism Committee began handing out crosses to first time visitors
November 1993	Faith Promise Box first used for Stewardship Sunday
November 1993	Fund Raising replaced monthly hoagie sale with ham and cheese sandwiches
March 1994	AA begins meeting at Good Shepherd
May 1994	Newspaper Shed erected
November 1994	First Totenfest service
November 1994	First Hanging of the Greens service
December 1994	New baby grand piano purchased
April 1995	Faith & Mission Committee began Mission Calendar
March 1996	Christian Education began Joyful Noise Offering
December 1996	Paul Sherry, UCC President, spoke at 10 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration
October 1998	Mountain Reflections Newsletter revamped under Debbie Silfies' editorship
November 1998	Mortgage on Sanctuary paid off
November 1998	Special Stand made and Altar Flowers placed at Foot of the Cross
April 1999	Ground Breaking Ceremony for Christian Education Wing & Fellowship Hall
February 2000	Boy Scout Sunday celebrated at Good Shepherd
March 2000	World Day of Prayer held at Good Shepherd

March 2000 Confirmation Class visits Lehigh County Conference of Churches on Ash Wednesday  
 June 2000 Fabric panels to decorate sanctuary cross  
 June 2000 Ascension Thursday Service begun  
 September 2000 Rally Day/Dedication of Furnishing for Christian Education Wing & Fellowship Hall  
 September 2000 Daisy Troop 245 begins meeting at Good Shepherd  
 October 2000 First on-site blood drive for Miller Blood Bank  
 October 2000 Entered first float in Slatington Halloween Parade/won first place  
 October 2000 Began Reformation Day Service  
 November 2000 Votive stand introduced for Totenfest  
 December 2000 First Jesse Tree Service  
 March 2001 Began holding two Sunday morning worship services  
 April 2001 Sunday School Trailer removed  
 April 2001 Children's Fellowship begun  
 April 2001 Slatington Senior Citizens began meeting at Good Shepherd  
 April 2001 Willing Workers Bible Class disbanded after 90 years  
 May 2001 First Prayer Pal revealing sponsored by Evangelism Committee  
 December 2001 First Longest Night Service  
 January 2003 Good Shepherd website under Stephen Haas' direction begins  
 April 2003 Cross in Fellowship Hall dedicated along with Willing Workers' piano  
 June 2003 Good Shepherd hosts PNEC Board Meeting  
 November 2003 First Blanket Drive by Confirmation Class of 2004  
 March 2004 Begin building stone wall around meditation garden  
 March 2004 Alan Miller, PNEC Conference Minister addresses congregation  
 June 2004 Brian Haas begins as Ministerial Intern  
 July 2004 Stephen Haas' Eagle Scout Court of Honor held at Good Shepherd  
 October 2004 Blacktopping of parking lot  
 Jan/Feb 2005 Special Offering for Tsunami Relief Fund  
 September 2005 Dedicated new pew Bibles (NRSV)  
 September 2005 First Blue Grass Jamboree in Grove  
 October 2005 First Pennsylvania German luncheon in conjunction with Reformation Sunday  
 March 2006 First church Mission Trip in response to Hurricane Katrina to Pas Christian, MS  
 May 2006 Good Shepherd Softball Team joins Church League  
 July 2006 Dedication of Meditation Garden  
 September 2006 Dedication of Chalice Hymnals  
 November 2006 Second Mission Trip in response to Hurricane Katrina to Gulfport, MS  
 January 2007 Congregational Meeting combined with worship and narrative budget  
 January 2007 Brian Haas ends internship to become licensed pastor at Christ UCC, Walnutport  
 September 2007 Jordan Hunsicker's Eagle Scout Court of Honor held at Good Shepherd  
 June 2007 Children's Church begun  
 April 2009 Bookkeeper created as a staff position  
 November 2009 Church Records (1984-2009) compiled into one typed document  
 January 2010 Quarterly mailing of offering envelopes initiated

## CHURCH STAFF

Organist		Secretary		Sexton	
Anita Grim	1984-86	Marie Rex	1984-92	Clifford Smith	1984-90
Nancy Embrey	1987-88	Debbie Silfies	1992-present	Robert Hahn	1986-90
Gene Kirschbaum	1987-92			Barry Silfies	1990-present
Fay Frederick	1992				
Floyd Schlegel	1993-00				
Gary Reider	1993-97				
Carol Cole	1997-00				
Marion Straub	2000-present				

## CONGREGATIONAL PROFILE - GOOD SHEPHERD - 2009

There are **398** present members of Good Shepherd of which **158** are men and **240** are women.

The age break down of the confirmed members is as follows:

25 ( 6%)	over 80 years old	3 men; 22 women
50 (12%)	between 65 and 79 years old	17 men; 33 women
132 (33%)	between 45 and 64 years old	57 men; 75 women
129 (33%)	between 25 and 44 years old	57 men; 72 women
62 (16%)	under 24 years old	24 men; 38 women

The oldest member of the congregation is Blanche Balliet, born November 2, 1910; and the oldest male member is Woodrow Neff, born June 24, 1917.

The marital status of the present members is as follows:

Of the 247 people who are married 105 are men and 142 are women.

The couple married the longest is Kenneth and Ruth (Bryfogle) Bilheimer, married December 31, 1952; and the couple married by a pastor of the congregation the longest is Lamont and Deanna (Neff) Kern, married June 9, 1956 by the Reverend Robert J. Urffer.

Of the 151 people who are single:

36 are widowed / 3 men; 33 women
23 are divorced / 6 men; 17 women
92 were never married / 42 men (30 under the age of 30); 50 women (39 under the age of 30)

The time frame when the present members joined:

prior to 1970	69	1980-89	63	2000-09	157
1970-79	30	1990-99	62	unknown	17

The process in which present members joined:

Confirmation	200	Affirmation of Faith	65	unknown	26
Letter of Transfer	101	Adult Baptism	6		

There are 101 unconfirmed members - 53 boys / 48 girls; 77 of which were baptized by the present pastor.

## 2009 ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

October 31, 2009

### Assets of Good Shepherd UCC

Cash in Bank Accounts	\$ 9,424.40
Church Building	1,227,529.00
▪ Main Building, built 1986 – 4,210 sq. ft. (including narthex, nave, sacristy)	
▪ Christian Education Wing, built 2000 – 1,800 sq. ft. (including pastor’s study, office, four classrooms)	
▪ Fellowship Hall/Kitchen, built 2000 – 3,240 sq. ft.	
Church Furniture	120,000.00
Property (8.1139 acres)	160,000.00
Paving, completed 2004	25,109.00
Grove Pavilion, built 1988	12,000.00
Grill House, built 1993	2,000.00
Newspaper Shed, built 1994	1,000.00
Grove Fixtures	4,000.00

**Total Assets** **\$1,561,062.40**

### Liabilities of Good Shepherd UCC

Mortgage	\$ 235,173.98
Black Top Loan	19,757.66
Pension Board Back Payment	3,957.96

**Total Liabilities** **\$ 258,889.60**

**Net Worth** **\$1,302,172.80**

\*Fair Market Value of property in its “as is” condition as of May 25, 2006 per appraiser Charles J.

Breidinger, Pennsylvania General Certified Real Estate Appraiser.

\*\*Church Furniture value based on approximate value at time of purchase or gift for insurance purposes

(insurance coverage for furnishing is replacement value).

