



## GOOD SHEPHERD

UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST

Finding God's Blessings In Serving Others For Christ

3940 Mountain Road Slatington, PA 18080 610/767-9680

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[www.GoodShepherdSlatedale.org](http://www.GoodShepherdSlatedale.org)

Dear family and friends of Good Shepherd ~

As we begin a new year and a new decade, Good Shepherd also begins a new chapter of its journey. Frederick Hegel's philosophy and I paraphrase, states that no civilization or era rests on its own merits but from all that went before it thus contributing to the current age. So, it would be appropriate and acceptable to lift up those who have given so much to make this new chapter in our journey possible.

To those who served on the Joint Council Consistory: Conrad Biege, Susie Blose, Christopher Kegel, Kerry Loch, Richard Nothstein, Pam Puskas, Chad Sommers, Tammy White as Elders; and Lester Bass, Judy Bollinger, Carissa Fallon, Sheri Fallon, Jim George, Eric Hantz, Bob Koons, David Kuremsky, Darlene Nothstein, Jonell Rinker Kuremsky, Tammy Schaefer, Cameron Shields, Dennis Silfies, Eddie Smith as Deacons.

And to the officers leading the Joint Council Consistory: President Kerry Loch, Vice President Eddie Smith, Secretary Robin Bellesfield, Financial Secretary Sally Loch, and Treasurer Cheryl Tully.

And all those who served faithfully on the numerous committees and teams as we lived into the new paradigm of a flexible governance. The time and commitment made by these individuals during the merger process is immeasurable. Thank you all.

And it is important to thank those who served on the Merger Team bringing two congregations together to become a new creation: Lester Bass and Kerry Loch, Co-chairpersons, Susan Bankes, Susie Blose, Dylan Coffin, Sheri Fallon, Bob Koons, Darlene Nothstein, Debbie Silfies, Eddie Smith, and Jennifer Sommers.

*Continued...*

**JANUARY LECTONARY**

**Jan 5, 2020                      Christmas 2 Epiphany observed**

Hebrew Lesson    Isaiah 60:1–6  
Epistle:            Ephesians 3:1–12  
Gospel Lesson:    Matthew 2:1–12  
Meditation        *Choose Hope*

**Jan 12, 2020                      Baptism of Jesus**

Hebrew Lesson    Isaiah 42:1–9  
Epistle:            Acts 10:34–43  
Gospel Lesson:    Matthew 3:13–17  
Meditation        *Loved*

**Jan 19, 2020                      2nd Sunday after the Epiphany**

Hebrew Lesson    Isaiah 49:1–7  
Epistle:            1 Corinthians 1:1–9  
Gospel Lesson:    John 1:29–42  
Meditation        *Called*

**Jan 26, 2020                      3rd Sunday after the Epiphany**

Hebrew Lesson    Isaiah 9:1–4  
Epistle:            1 Corinthians 1:10–18  
Gospel Lesson:    Matthew 4:12–23  
Meditation        *Follow*

**COMMUNION SCHEDULE**

**January 5<sup>th</sup> Epiphany Communion**

For our parishioners with food sensitivities our communion bread is now gluten free.



## **Altar Flowers and Bulletins**

### **Are Given In The Honor And Glory Of God**

*Reminder: Those that have requested Flowers and/or Bulletins; please see that the office gets your monies prior to the end of that month.*

Flowers: \$25                      Bulletins: \$10

- January 12<sup>th</sup> Flowers in Memory of Bobby Balliet  
January 19<sup>th</sup> Flowers in Memory of James Skubish  
January 19<sup>th</sup> Bulletin in Memory of Jean Brobst  
January 26<sup>th</sup> Flowers in honor of Tammy Schaeffer's Birthday

Please note in Memory or in Honor as well as your Name, Phone Number, and date for bulletins and/or flowers. Give payment to an Altar Guild member: Carol Oswald, Laura George, Mary Lacy, Julie Solt or Linda Coffin; or you can put your payment in a designated envelope located in the narthex and place it in the offering plate.

## **FAITH AND MISSION OUTREACH**

For January is VALOR  
Veterans Assistant Living Out Reach

If you would like to participate in our offering, please sign the Faith & Mission Calendar in the narthex with the name of a loved one you would like to honor or remember, along with your name, and then place a donation in a "Faith & Mission" envelope and put it in the Faith & Mission box or offering plate.

**[www.facebook.com/valorclinic](http://www.facebook.com/valorclinic)    [www.valorclinic.org](http://www.valorclinic.org)**

A Hand Up On The Home Front ~ Welcome To Paul's House

Reaching out to Veterans to provide shelter, food, supplies and access to healthcare. Veterans to help other Veterans to navigate through the process of recovering and rebuilding. VALOR's long-term vision is to be able to provide health clinics, homeless shelters, transition homes and recovery sanctuaries for Veterans in need.

Any donations for VALOR will be appreciated and can be placed in the box in the Narthex.



Our Thoughts &  
Prayers  
are with...



**Homebound Members**

Mary Bilheimer	Dolores Gruber	Kathryn Smith
Kay Costenbader	Claire Haas	Susan "Tillie" Waller
Sandra Endres	Carolyn Mann	

**Those Serving Our Country In the Armed Services**

**Or with The Department of Defense:**

Colby Adams	Michael Kelsey	Janel Tracy
Elijah Colon	Rebecca McMichael	Nicholas Sander
Kira (Kern) Kelsey	Cory Musser	Benjamin Schaffer
	David Neff	

*All that serve ~ Please do let us know if you have someone serving*

**Members:**

Pete Blynn	Frank Johnson	Pastor James
Mason Post-Bowers	Sandy Keller	

**Family & Friends**

Ron Chapline	Evan Hantz	Rev. Alan Miller
Alyzabyth DeLong	Christine Hewitt	Allyson Dee Miller
Charles Erndl	Robert Jaindl	Nancy Roberts
Robert Handwerk	Rick Keller	

**For The Families Of Those Who Have Entered Eternal Life:**

Donald Behler	John Moreton	Dolly Wertman
Louise Damico	Leonard Santee	

*God* is watching over you...

I know because I *asked* God to!



## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Jan 2	Paul Bachman, Jr.	Jan 18	Mackenzi Palmer
Jan 6	Katrina Knittle	Jan 18	Clinton Haas
Jan 7	Kevin Smith	Jan 18	Melissa Castillo
Jan 9	Connie Ferber	Jan 19	Sandra Keller
Jan 10	Matthew Hewitt	Jan 20	Alice Christman
Jan 12	Marilyn Sowden	Jan 21	Janice Hartmaier
Jan 13	“Butch” Biegly	Jan 22	Duane Haas
Jan 14	Mark Sander	Jan 22	Debbie Silfies
Jan 15	Jonathan Griffith	Jan 23	Chase Slanina
Jan 15	Bonita Hewitt	Jan 25	Tammy Schaeffer
Jan 16	James George	Jan 25	Tami Schuck
Jan 16	Violet Hantz	Jan 26	Barbara J. Neff
Jan 17	Carol Blose	Jan 29	Michelle Allen
Jan 17	Monica Griffith	Jan 31	Vivian Neff

## JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Jan 10	Dennis & Dale Ann (Zeigenfuss) Derr
Jan 29	Lester & Marge (Suarez) Bass

### **Faith & Mission Gifts:**

#### **October - Meals on Wheels**

10/2 - In Honor of Jesse White's Birthday by Tammy White.

10/4 - In Celebration of Adam Griffith's 9<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
by Jonathan and Monica Griffith

10/20 - In Memory of Susan White by Tammy White

#### **November - Turning Point**

11/15 - In Celebration of Susan Zellner's Birthday  
by Jonathan and Monica Griffith

11/21 - In Memory of Uncle Jackie Bechtel by Tammy White

#### **December - AID's Awareness**

12/9 - In Celebration of Calista Smoyer's Birthday  
by Jonathan and Monica Griffith

12/18 - In Honor of Daughter, Katie Koneschusky's, 32<sup>nd</sup> Birthday  
by Tammy White

12/21 - In Celebration of John Zellner's Birthday  
by Jonathan and Monica Griffith

If you would like to have your **Annual Giving Statement** emailed to you, please make sure to have your current email address into the office as soon as possible.

**Sunday, December 29, 2019** will be the last day to accept offerings for the 2019 year. Anything received after that date will be credited for 2020.



### December Scrip Summary

Participants = 24      Cards ordered = 319  
Profit = \$537.76

Next month's orders are due on **Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup>**, and orders will be delivered on **Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup>**

Thank you to all who helped to make the Scrip Program a success in 2019! **Profit This Year = \$2,609.68**

**Profit Program-To-Date = \$36,974.78**

**BELL CHOIR**- January 12<sup>th</sup> playing in church.  
Meet at 9:30am in social hall for practice and then practice from 11:15am to 11:45am in the church.



### Congratulations to :

Bonnie Hewitt on this months Lottery ticket!

Next months drawing with be January 15<sup>th</sup>. Chance to win \$100

See Karen Smith for your tickets and a chance to win!



Snow, Ice, Winter Emergency. With the winter months upon us, we need to prepare for winter time cancellations. Should we have to cancel services or other event, you can receive notices *via Church Post* by signing up through your email.

You can also visit our website [www.GoodShepherdSlatedale.org](http://www.GoodShepherdSlatedale.org) or [www.Facebook.com/GSUCC.Slatington](https://www.facebook.com/GSUCC.Slatington) to find out if events have been cancelled or check out TV Channel 69, Blue Ridge Channel 13 or Radio Station WAEB 790am

## Youth Group News!

Join us for our Month Meetings the January 5<sup>th</sup> after worship at 11:15am

## Vitality Teammates

Join us for our meeting on January 5<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm to discuss the future of the Vitality Energy.

## Church Cleanup and packing of Christmas Decorations Sunday, January 5<sup>th</sup> 2020 at 11:15am

Looking for volunteers interested in helping take down The Christmas decorations and help sort and pack Them in an organized manner. See Paster James



Looking for assistance in running the computer for worship services ~ will train. See Eric, Deb or Pastor James for more information.

## REMINDER TO COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Annual Reports are due into the office or Eric Hantz as soon as possible please.



Sportsman's Night Is January 25<sup>th</sup> , and we would appreciate any donations for the event. Something to keep in mind if you would like to contribute with any game, hunting items or funds. See Eddie Smith for more information.

## February 2<sup>nd</sup> , 2020 is "Souper" Bowl Sunday

and the youth of Good Shepherd are sponsoring the "*Souper Bowl Sunday*" canned soup drive. If you would like to donate cans of soup or boxes of crackers, you can drop them off in the Soup Can in the narthex. The soup and crackers will be given to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank to help those who are in need.





## Gratitude Reminder - A Little or A Lot

*If you use gratitude a little,  
your life will change a little.  
If you use gratitude a lot every day,  
your life will change a lot.*

Prayer is sitting in the silence until it silences us,  
Choosing Gratitude until we are grateful  
And praising God until we ourselves a  
Are an act of praise ~ Richard Rohr, OFC



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**FOOD BANK** - delivered 306 cans of corn for Christmas and 250 cans of corn for thanksgiving. We also delivered 50 pounds of assorted foods to the food bank in December.

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### **A NOTE OF APPRECIATION:**

We would like to express a sincere Thank you for all those that help make our Worship Services, our Outreach projects and Fundraising ventures successful to the benefit of Good Shepherd and those we reach out to. Whether you offer prayers for success, attend an event; donate items, money or your time in working an event or helping during the worship service. Whether it be just one time or many times, it could not / would not happen without your support! We ask a lot from you and you come through every time.

*Sincerely, Thank You ~  
the Good Shepherd Committees and Team Chairs.*

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Do you have a skill or talent that you would like to share... even on limited time or schedule? Share your gifts with your church to help spread God's Word through our deeds.

Missions we support are:

Allentown Rescue Mission - Autism Speaks - Bethany Children's Home  
Blanket Collection for Linkage Program - Phoebe Home - V.A.L.O.R  
Community Easter Egg Event - Community Vacation Bible School  
Habitat For Humanity - Turning Point - Lancaster Theological Seminary  
MD Ride for Life - Meals On Wheels - Northern Lehigh Food Bank  
Sixth Street Shelter - Soup Kitchen - Little Shepherd Pre-School



**Continued:**

This committee was greatly supported by **Moving Items:** Lester Bass, coordinator and the many individuals who assisted in moving items from old First to various new locations by mid-June; **Music Coordination:** Dylan Coffin, Michele Hunsicker, and Darlene Nothstein. Met three (3) times to organize and inventory choral sheet music; **Memorial Garden:** Chris Kegel, Debbie Silfies, Rich Taylor, Darlene Nothstein, and Mike Suprys. Met one (1) time and planning a dedication memorial for the spring of 2020; **Stain Glass Window of Jesus, the Good Shepherd:** Lester Bass, John Zellner, Barry Silfies, Dennis Silfies, Richard Schock, and Rick Wolfe. Presented at first worship service together on June 2<sup>nd</sup>; **Paraments:** Carissa Fallon, Sheri Fallon, Francie Appleman, Debbie Silfies, Carol Oswald. Met two (2) times to repurpose paraments; **Sound System:** Brett Hunsicker, Jordan Hunsicker, Eric Hantz, Omar Safi, and Stefan Moyer. Moved, set up, and connected with professionals to have system completed by September 30<sup>th</sup>; **Constitution and Bylaws:** Bonnie Bates, Tammy White, Jim George, Debbie Silfies, and Susan Bankes. Met five (5) times for writing and of the new constitution and Bylaws presentation at the Congregational Meeting; **Legal Merger Process:** Kerry Loch, Chris Kegel, Debbie Silfies, Cheryl Tully, Eric Hantz, Judy Bollinger, Jim George, Eddie Smith, Bonnie Bates, and Kevin Strohl of Steckel & Stopp Law Firm. Met three (3) times to prepare for presentation of the Plan of Merger at the Congregational Meeting of old First and old Good Shepherd.

And the most important thank you of all ~ to those disciples who believe enough in the mission and service of Jesus Christ as to affirm their journey with one another. You all are the Church making up the congregation at Good Shepherd.

Bless you as we begin the new beginning here and now.

Faithfully,

Pastor James



*New Beginnings*



*Good Stewardship  
Made Easy*

## Staying in Touch

[www.GoodShepherdSlatedale.org](http://www.GoodShepherdSlatedale.org)

And also "Like" us on:

[www.facebook.com/GSUCC.Slatington](https://www.facebook.com/GSUCC.Slatington)

### CONTACTING PASTOR JAMES

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**Email:** [jamdarrob@gmail.com](mailto:jamdarrob@gmail.com)

### JANUARY WORSHIP LEADERS

#### ELDER:

**January** Tammy White

#### HEAD DEACON:

**January** Cameron Shields

#### ACOLYTE:

**January 5** Patrick Conway

**January 12** Julian Cancel

**January 19** Julian Cancel

**January 26** Patrick Conway

#### USHERS:

**January 5** Nick Horvath, Stacy Cunningham,  
Dylan Coffin, Joe Conway

**January 12** Cameron Shields, Tammy White,  
Dylan Coffin, Eric Hantz

**January 19** Linda Bowers, Lester Bass,  
Dylan Coffin, Todd Solt

**January 26** Lester Bass, Aiden Solt,  
Dylan Coffin, Todd Solt

#### LAY READERS:

**January 5** Linda Coffin

**January 12** Colleen Shields

**January 19** Omar Safi

**January 26** Mary Lacy

#### GREETERS:

**January 5** Amber, Blake and Matt Snyder

**January 12** Carol Blose & Tina Minnich

**January 19** Tammy Schaeffer

**January 26** Tammy Schaeffer

#### ALTAR GUILD:

**January** Mary Lacy

In Service to t