

GOOD SHEPHERD

UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

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

www.GoodShepherdSlatedale.org

Good Shepherd~Faithfully serving~Compassionately accepting~Transforming together

Mountain Reflections ~ May 2020

Dear Disciples of the Good Shepherd ~

There are times when it is difficult to follow, but to do so demonstrates great leadership. I know that seems like an oxymoron. Think about it. Sometimes to take the lead you must follow the commands and be obedient. Obedience is difficult when we are not sure who to be obedient to.

During this great pandemic mixed with the unfolding of the Easter season, I am reminded it is Christ who I follow and in following his example, I set an example for others to follow him too. I pray we come to know the love of God, the forgiveness of Christ, and the acceptance of the Holy Spirit as we continue to be God's Church, coming together in spirit even as we remain physically separate through social distancing, which is another oxymoron.

I pray you all stay strong in spirit, centered in mind, and healthy in body. I look forward to seeing you all again soon when this pandemic subsides.

Yours in the Risen Christ,
Pastor James



Faith Formation Classes: 9:00am
Sunday Services: 10:00am

MAY LECTIONARY

May 3, 2020 **Easter 4**
Hebrew Lesson Acts 2:42-47
Lesson: 1 Peter 2:19-25
Gospel Lesson: John 10:1-10
Meditation *Living in Abundance*

May 10, 2020 **Easter 5**
Hebrew Lesson Acts 7:55-60
Lesson: 1 Peter 2:2-10
Gospel Lesson: John 14:1-14
Meditation *Living Stones*

May 17, 2020 **Easter 6**
Hebrew Lesson Acts 17:22-31
Lesson: 1 Peter 3:13-22
Gospel Lesson: John 14:15-21
Meditation *To See Is to Love*

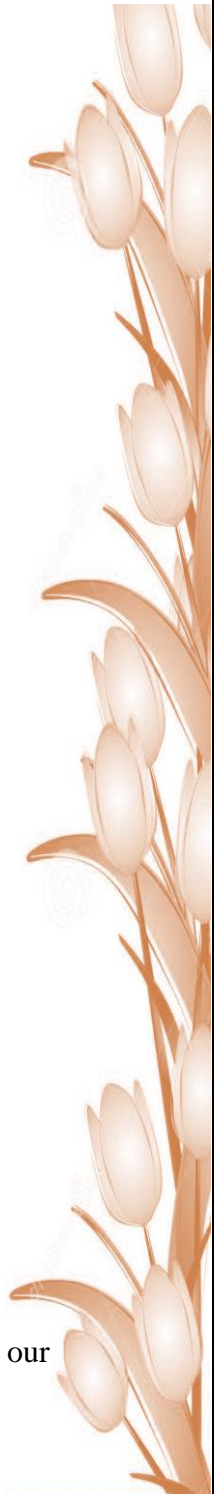
May 24, 2020 **Easter 7**
Hebrew Lesson Acts 1:6-14
Lesson: 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11
Gospel Lesson: John 17:1-11
Meditation *In it Together*

May 31, 2020 **Pentecost**
Hebrew Lesson Acts 2:1-21
Lesson: 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13
Gospel Lesson: John 20:19-23
Meditation *Spiritual Understanding*

COMMUNION SCHEDULE

Pentecost ~May 31, 2020

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



Altar Flowers and Bulletins

Given In The Honor And Glory Of God

If you had signed up to receive flowers or bulletins during our pause on worship services you need not pay, as flowers are unavailable. We will still include your request in the newsletters.

Choir News

Unfortunately, the current Covid 19 pandemic has put the start of Chancel Choir on hold. Hopefully, the choir will have a fresh, new beginning in mid-August to enhance worship at Good Shepherd with beautiful music. The Chancel Choir will be looking for any and all individuals who would like to sing praises to God and enjoy social interaction.

During the pandemic, Beth Hudlow, Dylan Coffin, Eric Hantz, Ellen Perkins, and Dennis Silfies have provided support to the virtual services, by offering their musical talents. We are so fortunate, at Good Shepherd, to have such talented individuals to create a meaningful worship experience. Hopefully, you were able to tune into the services and hear their talents.

There is a need for special music during the summer months. Perhaps you have a musical talent that you would be willing to share with the congregation. You may know an individual, outside of our church family, who would be willing to share their talent during a summer church service. Special music can be singing, playing an instrument, or working with another person to present a duet. If you would be willing to share your talents during the summer please contact Beth Hudlow. Email: bep Perkins@live.com or by phone: (570) 240-0044. If you are willing to participate in special music for the summer, but need some help formulating an idea, contact Beth and she will be happy to help.

Virtual Worship News

Virtual Worship Group is part of the Worship Team bringing the online message to those connected via the internet producing Sunday worship services, Tuesday and Thursday Connections, and Children's Time with Pastor James on Wednesdays. This allows us to continue our services for both worship and faith formation. To view these video services, go to our website where you will find 'online worship.' Click on the play key in the video. SUBSCRIBE to our YouTube channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVYHuSsU56ddNI3fhpeqQfg>



Our *Thoughts* &
Prayers
are with...



Homebound Members

Mary	Dolores	Kathryn
Kay	Carolyn	Susan "Tillie"
Sandra		

Those Serving Our Country In the Armed Services

Or with The Department of Defense:

Colby	Rebecca	Jacqueline
Elijah	Cory	Nicholas
Kira	David	Benjamin
Michael	Janel	

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

Members:

Linda	Dwayne
Dennis	Victoria

Family & Friends

Dorothy	Catherine	Sue
Linda	Al	
Karen	Carol	

For The Families Of Those Who Have Entered Eternal Life:

Randy	Robert	Jeffrey
Christine		

ALL THOSE EFFECTED BY THE CORONAVIRUS

God is watching over you...

I know because I *asked* God to!



MAY BIRTHDAYS

May 1	Lisa	May 18	Anna
May 1	Tyler	May 18	Dale Ann
May 2	Kyan	May 19	Linda
May 2	William	May 20	Zachary
May 2	Ronald	May 20	Aiden
May 2	Karen	May 22	Gregory
May 2	Xander	May 23	Stephanie
May 4	Elizabeth	May 23	Tina
May 5	Barry	May 23	Tanner
May 5	Joan	May 23	Kelsey
May 6	Tracey	May 25	Rowan
May 6	Tethina	May 26	Carrie
May 8	Nathan	May 26	Glenn
May 8	Riley	May 26	LaRue
May 9	Janice	May 26	Reagan
May 10	Kiersten	May 27	Dylan
May 10	Keegan	May 27	Jackie
May 11	Abigail	May 27	Gabriella
May 12	Annette	May 28	Amanda
May 12	Hayley	May 28	Jessica
May 12	Ella	May 28	Richard
May 13	Matthew	May 28	Ann
May 15	Richard	May 29	Amy
May 16	Donna	May 29	David
May 17	Thomas	May 31	Cheryl
		May 31	Rick

May 21st Ascension Day ~Ascension commemorates the day that Jesus ascended into Heaven (Acts 1:1-11) after spending 40 days appearing to his disciples after his resurrection.

May 31st Pentecost ~ Pentecost marks the descent of the Holy Spirit on the disciples and the beginning of the church's global mission.

Happy Mother's Day
May 10th

Armed Forces Day
May 16th

Memorial Day
May 25th

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

May 1	Dale & Amy
May 1	Jasmine & Megann
May 2	Donald & Roxy
May 2	Thomas & Fae
May 3	Carlton & Terri
May 5	Michael & Carrie
May 6	Butch & Ellen
May 7	Ed & Karen
May 13	Tyler & Taylor
May 14	Kevin & Kellie
May 16	Walter and Donna
May 16	Terry & Debra
May 17	Willard & Barbara
May 17	Gerald & Shirley
May 21	Dale & Amy
May 23	Erick & Tania
May 27	Randy & Carol
May 27	Richard & Debbie
May 27	Peter & Stacey

Staying in Touch

We are continuing to work on the Breeze Data Base. Please let us know if your mailing address, email or mobile number has changed by contacting Susan Layland, Church Secretary at

secretary@goodshepherdslatedale.org

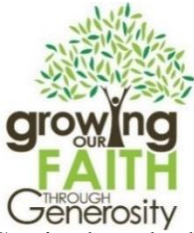
Little Shepherd's Preschool

Register Now for the 2020-2021 school year.

We offer classes for both 3 and 4 year old children. Little Shepherd's Preschool is a place where young children can learn, play, discover, explore, make friends, and have fun!

For more info, call Karen Weaver @ 610-657-5133





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.*

Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend. ~Melody Beattie

Special Offerings Opportunities: May 31st

“Strengthen the Church Special Offering”

Strengthen the Church is a special offering that largely supports youth ministries and full-time leaders of new churches in parts of the country where the United Church of Christ does not have a strong presence. Last year we collected \$25 and this year we will be taking a special offering on Pentecost Sunday, May 31st ~ you can also make a contribution using Tithe.ly if you would like. Thank you for considering the ministries beyond the walls of Good Shepherd.

Scrip Summary

Due to the current stay-at-home order that is prohibiting the safe collection and distribution of scrip orders, we will resume our regular scrip program when we return to our normal worship schedule.

Financial Update

These are the figures as of April 24th.

Offering 10,270.60

Tithe.ly 3,612.40

G Giving - Good Stewardship Made Easy

<https://get.tithe.ly/download-tithely-app>

We are invited to share our gifts so we might fulfill our call to walk with our sisters and brothers proclaiming God’s love, forgiveness, and acceptance for everyone. For those with pre-addressed Church Envelopes, place a stamp on it with your gift and mail. Or, please consider electronic giving using the link marked, “Give Online”. Thank you for prayerfully considering what you can afford.

Staying in Touch

www.GoodShepherdSlatedale.org

And also "Like" us on:

www.facebook.com/GSUCC.Slatington

Need to add someone to prayer chain:

requestprayers@ptd.net

Contact Susan Layland

secretary@goodshepherdslatedale.org

CONTACTING PASTOR JAMES

Church Office: 610-767-9680

Home Phone: 610-432-3980

Email: jamdarrob@gmail.com

MAY WORSHIP LEADERS

May Worship leaders when worship resumes the following will be serving as follows:

ELDER: Christopher

HEAD DEACON: Dennis

ACOLYTE: TBD

LAY READERS: Mary

GREETERS: Madeline

ALTAR GUILD: Mandi

AUDIO/VISUAL: Eric



In Service to the Lord

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Save The Date: Sunday July 12th thru Thursday July 16.

Sunday 5 to 8 - we will have a small supper
for the kids.

Monday thru Wednesday 6 to 8.

Thursday 7pm Closing program.



Financial Peace University – Dave Ramsey
June 17, 24; July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; Aug 5, 12



For class membership, here is the unique class site
with dates, times, location, and lesson information:

www.fpu.com/1117598

Given the current state of social distancing, Ramsey
Solutions has options for virtual formats, etc. If the
format needs to change from the traditional format,
appropriate modifications can be made closer to the
start date of the class.

Instructor: Monica

Meditation Prayer on Love Thich Nhat Hanh

1. May I be peaceful, happy, and light in body, mind and spirit.
2. May I be free from injury. May I live in safety.
3. May I be free from disturbance, fear, anxiety, and worry.
4. May I learn to look at myself with the eyes of understanding and love.
5. May I be able to recognize and touch the seeds of joy and happiness in myself.
6. May I learn to identify and see the sources of anger, craving and delusion in myself.
7. May I know how to nourish the seeds of joy in myself this day.
8. May I be able to live fresh, solid and free.
9. May I be free from attachment and aversion, but not be indifferent.

This nine-part prayer is prayed first for yourself, then for a person you like, then for a person you love, then a person neutral to you, and finally for a person you suffer when you think of. The prayer can also be prayed for a group, people, or a nation you like, then one you love, one that is neutral for you, and finally one you suffer when you think of.

Faith and Mission for May is MDA
Muscular Dystrophy Association

www.mda.org

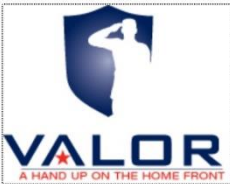
MDA is a nonprofit health agency dedicated to curing muscular dystrophy, ALS and related diseases by funding worldwide research.

The freedom to walk,
to talk,
to run and play,
to laugh,
to hug
to eat
to breathe.

Every day, muscle-debilitating diseases take these abilities away from kids and adults we love. And every day, MDA families are doing remarkable things to live beyond their physical limits.



Our Mission Team hopes you will continue to collect items to donate to Backpack Buddies when we return to gathering for worship.



We also look forward to resuming our VALOR dinners as soon as we are able and invited.

Keep on the lookout for updates. And thank you for your generosity to those in need of knowing and feeling the presence of God.

What is AmazonSmile?

www.smile.amazon.com

AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added benefit that Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.

Please choose: Good Shepherd UCC Slatington