

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 ~ November 2020

Dear Family and Friends of Good Shepherd United Church of Christ ~

I am at times amazed what we have accomplished in our ministry together as a people of God. In just a couple of years we have gone from struggling as two separate congregations trying to do the simplest of tasks that had begun decades before to thriving in mission and vision in spite of a pandemic as a new and unified congregation filled with passion and compassion.

I think the hardest thing of all is the waiting. That time between dreams and reality. The experience of sacrifice and achievement. Leaving things behind and welcoming future experiences in the here and now. I can only begin to imagine what it must have been like for the Hebrew people struggling to gain their freedom amongst doubts and hardships. Or the Jewish nation chosen to prepare the world for a coming Messiah and the fruition of the promises in Christ for the early Church.

Through all of this, I am reminded we are not there yet and won't be until our work here on earth is done and we are able to cross over into the Promised Land of everlasting peace that God offers.

We must not give up the struggle, nor should we rest upon our laurels. Instead, we are called to bring the kingdom of God to earth always and in all ways by offering forgiveness to our enemies and those who would persecute us, serving the poor and homeless, caring for the sick and dying, proclaiming hope to those who are marginalized and voiceless.

Our call to serve does not depend on election returns. The poor are still among us no matter who is elected. The homeless still seek refuge no matter who is in office. The sick and dying are still in need of signs of hope and medical miracles. Injustices continue to exist and need to be revealed and restoration of peace assured.

Continued

Faith Formation Classes: 9:00am

Sunday Services: 10:00am

NOVEMBER LECTONARY

Nov 1, 2020	All Saints Day
Hebrew Lesson	Revelation 7:9–17
Epistle:	1 John 3:1–3
Gospel Lesson:	Matthew 5:1–12
Meditation	<i>On the Right Road</i>
Nov 8, 2020	23rd Sun after Pentecost
Hebrew Lesson	Joshua 24:1–3a, 14–25
Epistle:	1 Thessalonians 4:13–18
Gospel Lesson:	Matthew 25:1–13
Meditation	<i>Door Shut or Open?</i>
Nov 15, 2020	24th Sun after Pentecost
Hebrew Lesson	Judges 4:1–7
Epistle:	1 Thessalonians 5:1–11
Gospel Lesson:	1 Matthew 25:14–30
Meditation	<i>Rejecting Fear – Embracing Joy</i>
Nov 22, 2020	Reign of Christ/ Christ the King
Hebrew Lesson	Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24
Epistle:	Ephesians 1:15–23
Gospel Lesson:	Matthew 25:31–46
Meditation	<i>Do You See Me?</i>
Nov 29, 2020	Advent 1
Hebrew Lesson	Isaiah 64:1–9
Epistle:	1 Corinthians 1:3–9
Gospel Lesson:	Mark 13:34–37
Meditation	<i>Reshape, Reclaim, Remember</i>

COMMUNION SCHEDULE

November 29th Advent 10:00am

December 24th Christmas Eve

3pm/5pm/11pm

Communion will be celebrated using sealed elements of bread and grape juice. If you wish to stay in your vehicle simply respond at the appropriate time to receive communion, but turning on your 4-way flashers and an usher with a mask and gloves will bring you the prepackaged elements. This offers those who wish to position their vehicles in the parking lot and participate in the service by listening to our FM Station 88.5.

Continued

Our work is never done until we rest from our labors at the end of the journey. Take a break if you must, but never give up or give in but continue to do what is right and just and caring to ALL of God's people and the world that God has created for each and every one of us. In the end, it is in times of waiting that the seeds of hope are nurtured and grow ~ like seeds in the earth.

May we continue to sow and harvest in the name of the one who saves us ~ Jesus Christ.

A simple follower of God's truth as found in Christ Jesus,
Pastor James

Altar Flowers and Bulletins

Given In The Honor And Glory Of God

November 1 - In Memory of Kenneth W. Straub, Jr. & in honor of Marion E. Straub's birthday

November 8 - In Memory of James Shelly by Robert Shelly

November 22 - In honor of Birthday of Mary R. Lacy

Please contact Susan in the office if you wish to sponsor bulletin or flowers for November. Her hours are Tuesdays-Thursday from 10-3
Please call before stopping into the office.

Church Office: 610-767-9680 / secretary@goodshepherdslatedale.org

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 thru Facebook Live Streaming
This allows us to continue our services for those at church and those at home.

Our Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/GSUCC.Slatington>

SUBSCRIBE to our YouTube channel.

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

Announcing our NEW Website:

<https://www.GoodShepherdUCCSlatington.org>



Looking for someone to take on the role of
Website Administrator. See Dennis Silfies



Our Thoughts &
Prayers
are with...



Homebound Members

Mary Bilheimer	Sandra Endres	Kathryn Smith
Kay Costenbader	Dolores Gruber	Susan "Tillie" Waller

Those Serving Our Country In the Armed Services

Or with The Department of Defense:

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

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

Members:

Eileen Andrews	Joe Conway	Frank Johnson
Marge Bass	Ann Johnson	Dennis Silfies

Family & Friends

Lisa Gilly	Rev. Allen Miller	
Connor Bordick	Steve Hill	Allyson Dee O'Brien
Dale Bossons	Midge Klotz	Stuart Schwartz
Debbie DeLong	Mason Post	Kevin Young

For The Families Of Those Who Have Entered Eternal Life:

Elaine Frantz	Melvin "Butch" Sauerwine
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Those in higher education:

Jenna, Toby and Caden, studying at LCCC; Angie, studying at Widener University; Matthew , studying at Moravian College; Calista, studying at West Virginia University; Jacob, studying at Drexel University; Nathan, studying at Penn State; and Dylan, studying at Susquehanna University.

God is watching over you...

I know because I *asked* God to



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Nov 1	Geraldine Boyer	Nov 19	Linda Frey
Nov 3	Ryan Hartmaier	Nov 19	Eric Hantz
Nov 5	Carol Thomas	Nov 19	Dick Nothstein
Nov 6	Sheri Fallon	Nov 20	Sterling Christman
Nov 8	Sophia Ferber	Nov 20	Jenelle Heilman
Nov 10	Jasmine Feller	Nov 20	Carol Kresge
Nov 11	Jed Gilly	Nov 20	Paul Pitruzzello
Nov 11	Mayson Moyer	Nov 21	Kerry Loch
Nov 11	Gerald Phillips	Nov 21	Lily Gad
Nov 13	Ryan Hewitt	Nov 21	Alex Beblavy
Nov 13	Kyle Kremposky	Nov 22	Matthew Snyder
Nov 14	Samantha Richardson	Nov 23	Mary Lacy
Nov 15	Ann Johnson	Nov 23	Ryan Smoyer
Nov 15	Landon Moll	Nov 26	Marge Bass
Nov 15	Kylie Solt	Nov 24	Jasmine Rodrigues
Nov 15	Susan Zellner	Nov 24	Colleen Shields
Nov 16	Lillian Strohl	Nov 27	John Gellis
Nov 16	Andrew Mack	Nov 28	Richard Croll
Nov 17	Brad Ferber	Nov 28	Andrew Trelease
Nov 17	Avery Hewitt	Nov 30	Pam Puskas



NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Nov 2	Robert & Denise (Rodriques) Koons
Nov 7	Billy & Ashley (Miller) Nagy
Nov 11	James & Angie (Shelly) Rex
Nov 18	Matt & Kim (Cogle) Rex



Faith Formation

Remember you can stop by and pick up Lessons for home students.

We are looking for a few people to help with our "Faith Formation" services at our Sunday time of 9am.

Hopefully, if you have teenagers they can help.

Tech savvy teens can videotape openings and online sessions to post for children and youth who cannot attend each week but would like to continue growing their faith.

Projects that are being planned for children and youth will also be recorded and can be completed at home.

Teens and young adults will fit this role perfectly.

Volunteers do not need to be present every Sunday.
Flexible schedules can be met.

For those away at school: Please let us know where you are studying, what you are studying and where we can send you mail.

We want to keep you in prayer and our community.

You can send the information to Susan
at secretary@goodshepherdslatedale.org



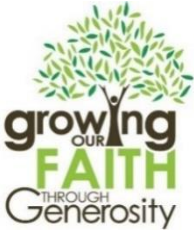
Worship in your Car



We now have an FM Transmitter to transmit our services over FM 88.5 which allows anyone to receive it on the radio in their vehicle.

Park along the front of the parking lot for best reception.

We also have FM receivers, which will be given to anyone who has trouble hearing the service, to use indoors during the service.



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.*

A grateful heart is a beginning of greatness. It is an expression of humility. It is a foundation for the development of such virtues as prayer, faith, courage, contentment, happiness, love, and well-being.

Scrip Summary

SCRIP Summary October 2020

Participants	8
Cards Ordered	61
Profit	\$130.55
Profit Year-To-Date	\$664.11
Profit Program-To-Date	\$37,638.89
Next month's orders are due Sunday, November 8 th and will be delivered on Sunday, November 15 th	

Scrip is Fundraising
While You Shop!™



Financial Update

DATE	ENVELOPES	E-GIVING
September 27th	1,493.00	507.96
October 4th	3,569.00	159.12
October 11th	2,135.50	193.83
October 18th	1,231.00	680.33

 **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, call the Church and someone from the Consistory would pick the offering. Also please consider electronic giving using the link marked, "Give Online". Thank you for prayerfully considering what you can afford.



Do you know someone who has no Computer or no Technology?

but they still would like the Newsletter and weekly Bulletin?

Give us their name, and address to make sure we have it, and we will send them a copy of the monthly newsletter and a weekly bulletin.

Contact Susan at the office: 610-767-9680 or email her at: secretary@goodshepherdslatedale.org



Looking for assistance with Audio/Visual and computer for worship services ~ will train Youth and Adults alike. See Eric Hantz, Deb Craig or Pastor James for more information.

The Northern Lehigh Elementary Schools will be sending home backpacks every Friday filled with supplies for students in need.

* Some items sent home on a monthly need.



If you wish to participate in filling those needs, a bin is located near the Kitchenette in the Narthex

Faith Formation Classes

11/01 Teacher: Pam	11/08 Teacher: Mary
Crafters: Stacy and Karen	Crafter: Karen
11/15 Teacher: Susie	11/22 Teacher: Pam
Crafter: Stacy	Crafter: Pam
11/29 Teacher: Monica	
Crafter: Deb	

Interested in becoming a Girl Scout?
Meeting Mondays from 6pm to 7:30pm



Contact Raeanne Creyer by emailing her at: raa06@ptd.net

Faith and Mission

For November is **Turning Point**

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.turningpointlv.org

Turning Point of Lehigh Valley is a safe place where victims of abuse and their children can find refuge. We provide services in Lehigh and Northampton counties to more than 5,000 victims of domestic violence each year. Our mission is to eliminate domestic violence in the Lehigh Valley through empowerment, education and engagement



We will be delivering our VALOR monthly dinners the last Sunday of the month.

At this time, we will not be joining them for the meal until it is safe for us all.

Donations for the meals are appreciated and they thank you for your generosity.

FYI: At this time VALOR is still not accepting clothing donations.

Northern Lehigh Food Bank

Thanksgiving Meals

We are collecting 200 cans of corn for Thanksgiving meals for our Northern Lehigh Food Bank clients.

Please bring in by **Sunday November 8th**



Staying in Touch

www.GoodShepherdUCCSlatington.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

Mobile Phone: 484-571-6083

Email: jamdarrob@gmail.com

NOVEMBER WORSHIP LEADERS

*Volunteers are being asked to help with worship.
See Pastor James to assist.*

**We are still in need of Worship Leaders for
November & December 2020.**

- † Acolytes for December 13
- † Ushers for Nov 15, 22 & 29
December 20 & 27
- † Greeters for Jan 19 & 26
February 2 & 16



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST

BEFORE YOU GO TO BED

TURN BACK CLOCKS 1 HOUR

In Service to the Lord