



GOOD SHEPHERD

UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

Pastor James D. Robison, Jr

3940 Mountain Road Slatington, PA 18080

610/767-9680

www.GoodShepherdUCCSlatington.org www.facebook.com/GSUCC.Slatington

Good Shepherd Faithfully serving ~ Compassionately accepting ~ Transforming together.

Dear Family and Friends of Good Shepherd ~

Mountain Reflections April 2024

The world around us is awakening from its wintry slumber, adorned in the hues of blossoming flowers and the symphony of birdsong.

In this season of renewal, we find inspiration in the earth's revival, mirroring the hope that Easter bestows upon our hearts. The Easter message of resurrection can serve as a reminder that, in the face of challenges, there's always room for growth.

Our Easter path is illumined by our numerous missions. Just as the resurrection brings new life to the world, may our endeavors be infused with the spirit of transformation.

Let the Easter message embolden us to approach challenges with unwavering faith, knowing that even in the darkest moments, the promise of a new dawn awaits.

May we celebrate the diversity of our missions, each one a unique bloom in the garden of our shared purpose, reflecting the vibrant tapestry of God's love and grace and fostering unity and understanding in our communities.

Praying that we, the disciples of the Good Shepherd, find strength and purpose.

Blessings and love,
Pastor James

APRIL LECTONARY

April 7, 2024	2nd Sunday of Easter
Lesson:	John 20:19-31
Meditation:	Marks of Faith
April 14, 2024	3rd Sunday of Easter
Lesson:	Luke 24:36b-48
Meditation:	Christ Among Us
April 21, 2024	4th Sunday of Easter
Lesson:	John 10:11-18
Meditation:	Enfolded by Love
April 28, 2024	5th Sunday of Easter
Lesson:	John 15:1-8
Meditation:	Abiding in Love

COMMUNION SCHEDULE

Pentecost ~ Sunday, May 19, 2024

We will be celebrating communion as we have prior to the pandemic. If you wish to stay in your vehicle, simply respond at the appropriate time to receive communion by turning on your four-way flashers. Ushers with masks and gloves will bring elements to you and any passengers in your car. Those who wish to remain in their vehicles can participate by listening to the service on FM Station 88.5.

Virtual Worship Services thru Facebook Live-Streaming allows us to continue our services for those at church and for those at home.

Our Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/GSUCC.Slatington> **Worship With Us**

In Your Car:

For those who wish to, you can at any time, remain in your vehicles and park in the front parking lot to enjoy the service by tuning in and listening to our **FM Station 88.5**.

Mission Outreach for April is Autism Awareness

Every year, autism organizations around the world celebrate



Autism Awareness with unique fundraising and awareness-raising events. Use #LightItUpBlue to share your experience across social media and help light the world up blue this April! Autism Speaks is dedicated to promoting solutions across the spectrum and throughout the life span.

FAMILY PROMISE

Good Shepherd & Heidelberg UCC will be **hosting Family Promise the week of April 28 to May 5**. We need volunteers to greet the arriving families at 6 pm & stay until 8:30 pm; to cook a meal; to stay overnight (8:30pm-6am); and/or to assist with set-up & clean-up on April 28 and May 5. If you are interested in helping with this mission project, please see Ann Hayes or email at ahayes2395@gmail.com.

We will also be hosting the week of **October 13-20, 2024**. Please consider volunteering and contact Ann Hayes.

Free Women's Retreat, Saturday, April 27 at St. John's UCC, Slatington from 9 am to 4 pm with snacks and lunch provided. Please call church (St. John's UCC) office at 610-767-5554 or 610-767-6361 (St. John's Lutheran) to make your reservation **before April 6**.

Sunday, April 7 is Holy Humor/Jazz Worship Service. Come join the fun as we worship God with humor and music played by the band 14th & Spring.



Our **Thoughts &**
Prayers
are with...



Homebound Members

Marge Bass	Dennis Derr	
Mary Bilheimer	Betty Humanick	Richard Kuntz
Kay Costenbader	Susan 'Tillie' Waller	

Those Serving Our Country In the Armed Services

Or with The Department of Defense:

Colby Adams	Michael Kelsey	Spencer Perkins
Anthony Babb	Marcus Loch	Nicholas Sander
Sean Bolza	Rebecca McMichael	Benjamin Schaffer
Dalton Housenick	Jacob Molchan	Janel Tracy
Kira (Kern) Kelsey	Adam Moyer	
	Jacqueline (Tracy) Moyer	

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

Family & Friends

Jane Achey	Sue Jones	Connie Renner
Connie Beblavy	Boden Kearney	Kayla Schappell
Gail Bell	Shawn Kress	Kylie Schneider
Sherry Bishop	Kevin Kroboth	Janice Schwartz
Louise Croll	Wayne Kuhns	Sandy Serfass
Amanda Dieter	Don Kutzner	Karen Smith
Fiona Dieter	Tina Minnich	Charlotte Solt
Doug Farber	Heather Moyer	Sallie Solt
Tina Fetchko	Chris Newhard	Mary Storm
Gayle	Darlene Nothstein	Frank Strohl
Lisa Gilly	Allen & Allison Pickwick	
Keith Gross	Wendy Peddigree	Rich Taylor
Lee Haas	Catherine Shellhammer	
Steph Hamby	Faith Mondrick Lauer	
Daniel Howard	Helen Zolnowsky	MaryEllen White

For The Families Of Those Who Have Entered Eternal Life:

Edward Kremposky	Sonny Mim	Luther Musselman
Tony Patrick	Marilyn Sowden	

Altar Flowers and Bulletins
Given To The Honor And Glory Of God



To honor someone with altar flowers, or to sponsor a bulletin, please place your name, and the person(s) to be honored or remembered, on the calendar in the narthex. Flower orders \$35 and/or bulletin \$10, sponsorship must be on the calendar in the Narthex by the prior Sunday.

Linda Coffin is the Altar Guild contact.

Financial **G** Giving - Good Stewardship Made Easy

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

Texting the word “give” to **610.615.7657**

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 will pick up the offering. Also, please consider electronic giving using the link marked, “Give Online.” If you would like to give through texting, you can do so by texting the word “give” to 610.615.7657 and follow the prompts on your mobile phone Thank you for prayerfully considering what you can afford.

SCRIP Report • March 2024

Participants	–	11
Cards Ordered	–	54
Profit	–	\$124.79
Profit Year-To-Date	–	\$372.20

Orders Due **Sunday, Apr. 14**; delivery on **Sunday, Apr. 21**.

Clothing drop-off box at the rear of the property earns the church money per pound. If you are cleaning out your closets, this is a good fundraiser for the church. 2024 earnings so far total \$80.

Redner’s Save-A-Tape bucket in Narthex. The church gets 1% of your receipt if you have a Save-A-Tape card from Redner’s. 2023 earnings \$129.28.

Calendar

Calendar

April Birthdays

Apr 1	Caleb Sommers	Apr 18	Aiden Solt
Apr 2	Jennifer Fister	Apr 19	Carissa Fallon
Apr 2	Weslie Frano	Apr 20	Chelsea Bilheimer
Apr 2	Connor Solt	Apr 20	Drew Rice
Apr 3	Ahstin Creyer	Apr 20	Toby Sander
Apr 3	Abigail Dodd	Apr 20	Blake Snyder
Apr 3	Lamont Kern	Apr 23	Adam Bishop
Apr 4	Karen Bachman	Apr 25	Bob Beblavy
Apr 4	Tina Minnich	Apr 25	Emily Heffernan
Apr 5	Kendall Frantz	Apr 26	Sean Palmer
Apr 10	Wally Amey	Apr 27	Benjamin Griffith
Apr 10	Ann Hayes	Apr 27	Michael Smith
Apr 10	Jordan Hunsicker	Apr 29	Joshua Banks
Apr 15	Randy Andrews	Apr 29	Joseph Conway, III
Apr 15	Nathan Flexer	Apr 29	Freya Lynn Palmer
Apr 16	Roxie Schraden	Apr 30	Carson Blose
Apr 17	Vincenzo Fricchione	Apr 30	Kase Kohler
Apr 17	Jade Rice	Apr 30	Beau Pitruzzello
Apr 18	Gregory Fogle	Apr 30	Westin Redline
		Apr 30	Holden Schaffer

April Anniversaries

Apr 7	Greg & Sharon (Rex) Miller
Apr 16	William & Diane (Wassum) Fister
Apr 16	Lee & Evelyn (Bachman) Haas
Apr 17	Nelson & Jean (Walters) Frantz
Apr 21	Drew & Mary-Beth (Kern) Fatzinger, Jr.
Apr 22	Dwayne & Janet (Matthews) Kern
Apr 24	Jeff & Linda (Bachman) Coffin
Apr 25	Michael & Kayla (Creed) Sander
Apr 28	Marie Bachman & O.B. O'Brien

The Winner of the March Lottery is: Susan Sensinger.



See Karen Smith to participate.

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

VALOR Dinners are prepared on the last Sunday of every month and taken to Jonas for our homeless veterans. There are index cards in the Narthex on the Sunday prior to the meals. Each card has an ingredient that is needed for that month's meal plan. Please consider taking one and donating the food needed. For more information or to help prepare the meals, please see Deb Craig.

On April 28, we will be taking a Capital Fund/Emergency Special Offering. This envelope is in with your regular giving envelopes and is used to give the treasurer extra money to meet unexpected expenses.

From Rev. Kris P. Snyder, Union UCC, Neffs:

Dear Heidelberg and Good Shepherd leaders, pastors, and Consistories,

It is with deep gratitude for your work and leadership that I write to thank you for your commitment to becoming ONA congregations. How very happy I am for you and proud of you for doing this work.

I also want to thank you because you inspired us to do the process as well. Pastor James and Pastor Michelle met with our committee to share our process and story. They were so helpful and encouraging. You helped us step into this important piece of being church in this time and place. Thank you for your important presence in our community and for partnering with us to be a UCC presence that is welcome to everyone.

Giving God thanks for you (and your pastors!)

Blessings,

Pastor Kris, Union UCC, Neffs

FUNDRAISING



GONE FISHIN

Saturday, April 20, 2024

- Doors Open at 4:00 p.m. -
(Meal Served at 5:00 p.m.)

GOOD SHEPHERD U.C.C.

3940 Mountain Road, Slatington, PA. Lic. #: PA 0153R23

Cost: \$10.00

Includes: 15 Prize Raffle Ticket,
Meal & Refreshments
(Only 250 Tickets Printed)

- Winners Need not be present -



Special Table Drawings Throughout Event
Including Kayak & Two Shot Guns



Door Prizes &
50/50 Drawing



For Advanced Tickets Call:

Joe Conway @ 484-896-8115 or Ed Smith @ 610-767-3776

Saturday, May 4, 2024 – Cash & Gift Card Bingo
Doors Open at 12 pm.

232 cans of corn were delivered to the Northern Lehigh food bank to be handed out for the families Easter Meals. Thanks to all.

Fundraising Profit for 2024:

<u>Event</u>	<u>Profit</u>
Sportsman Night Raffle	\$5,750.07
Soup Sale	\$353.00
Hoagie Sale	\$291.00
Clear toy lollipops & pieces	\$51.25
Floyd's Used Clothing	\$80.00

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Pastor James is looking for individuals in junior and/or senior high school that would like to explore possible service and mission opportunities. Pastor James will meet with the youth on the first Sunday of the even months in 2024: **April 7, June 2, August 4, October 6, December 1**. Let Pastor know if you are interested by emailing or texting him.

YOUTH ENSEMBLE

The Youth Ensemble meets the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, Sunday of each month for children to play games, sing songs, play instruments, and enjoy a snack after church until 11:45. Children ages 5 and up are invited to participate. Littles, ages 3 and 4, can participate with an adult present. This spring the children will be presenting music during the following church services: May 12, and June 9.

The Youth Ensemble will resume on April 14.

FAITH FORMATION

Classes: 9:00am

Teachers - <u>Youth Class</u>	<u>Children (K-Grade 4)</u>
Apr 7 Deb Craig	Pam Puskas
Apr 14 Monica Griffith	Beth Kutzner
Apr 21 Deb Craig	Mary Storm
Apr 28 Easter Party	Beth Kutzner

Staying in Touch

Office Hours Tuesday and Wednesday 11:00 ~ 3:00

Church Office: 610-767-9680 Ext. 2

Email: secretary@goodshepherducc.org

Pastor James Mobile Phone: 484-571-6083

Email: jamdarrob@gmail.com

Our Church Staff

Pastor	Rev. James D. Robison, Jr.
Preschool Director	Karen Weaver
Organist/Pianist	Dr. Yezi Chen
Choir Director	Beth Kutzner
Secretary	Eileen Andrews
Treasurer	Tammy White
Financial Secretary	Colleen Shields
Sexton	Matthew Shields

April Worship Leaders

Deacon:	Jim George
Altar Guild:	Sharon Conway
Lay Readers:	7 Linda Coffin
	14 Pam Puskas
	21 Rae Anne Creyer
	28 Darlene Nothstein
Greeters:	7 Alice Kegel
	14 Kathy Elson & Mike Passaro
	21 Rae Anne Creyer & Judy
	28 Randy & Eileen Andrews

Power Point Designers: Deb Craig, Eric Hantz

A/V Operators: Riley Fallon, Tracey Gursky, Bryan Horninger, Evan Horninger

Videographer: Beth Kutzner

Snow, Ice, Winter Emergency Cancellations

check out TV Channel 69 or Radio Station WAEB 790am, our website and Facebook sites. Email or Texts.