



## GOOD SHEPHERD

UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST

Pastor James D. Robison, Jr

3940 Mountain Road Slatington, PA 18080

610/767-9680

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

**Good Shepherd Faithfully serving ~ Compassionately accepting ~ Transforming together.**

# Mountain Reflections April 2025

Dear Friends and Members of Good Shepherd UCC ~

Christ is risen! Alleluia! As we celebrate the joy and hope of Easter, let us remember that this holy day is a profound reminder of God's boundless love for all creation. In the resurrection, Jesus has broken every barrier—between life and death, despair and hope, division and unity.

Easter calls us to embrace the fullness of this love by recognizing the beauty in each other. As we reflect on these words: *"Our abilities aren't hindered because of our differences. Our talents aren't any less because we are unique. Our worth isn't defined by our diversity. It is not our differences that divide us, it is our inability to recognize, accept, embrace, and celebrate those differences,"* let us allow them to guide our hearts and actions.

We are each fearfully and wonderfully made in God's image, with unique gifts and perspectives. In Christ's resurrection, we are called to celebrate this diversity as part of God's divine design. By loving one another fully, we become the Body of Christ—united not by sameness but by the love that binds us together.

May this Easter season renew our commitment to embrace one another with joy and compassion, reflecting the light of the risen Christ in all we do.

In hope and peace,

Pastor James

## **APRIL LECTONARY**

### **April 6, 2025**

Lesson:

Meditation:

### **5th Sunday in Lent**

Isaiah 43:15-21

Something New

### **April 13, 2025**

Lesson:

Meditation:

### **Palm Sunday**

Luke 19:28-40

Into Jerusalem

### **April 20, 2025**

Lesson:

Meditation:

### **Easter Sunday**

John 20:1-18

Resurrection Joy

### **April 27, 2025**

Lesson:

Meditation:

### **2nd Sunday of Easter**

Acts 5:27-32

Resurrection Witness

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## **COMMUNION SCHEDULE**

Maundy Thursday, April 17, 2025 at 7:00 pm

Easter Services, Sunday, April 20, 2025 at 6 am and 10 am

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**Virtual Worship Services:** Live-Streaming You Tube and Facebook allows us to continue our services for those unable to attend in person.

**Our Facebook Page:**

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

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## **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.



Our Thoughts &  
Prayers  
are with...



**Homebound Members**

Marge Bass	Kay Costenbader	Judy Mack
Mary Bilheimer	Dennis Derr	Carol Schweitzer
Shirley Blynn	Donna Fox	“Tillie” Waller

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

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

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

**Family & Friends**

Sherry Bishop	Michelle Hewitt	Scott Pellington*
Michael Bossons	Barbara Hower	Eva Marie Poliquim
Michael Bowers	Gary Johannes	Pam Puskas
Chastity Corvino	Boden Kearney	Dennis Raver
Doug Farber	Hayden Keller	Richards Family
Tim Fogelman	Rick & Sandy Keller	Kylie Schneider
Steve George	Susan Lukon	Rob Sever
Bob Gross	Marion Madenheim	Destinee Slanina
Lee Haas	Barbara Mathias*	Frank Strohl
Jeff Hanzarik	Misty Nagata	Tony Waller
Frank Hart	Ronald Moyer	John Zellner
	Mrs. Ronald Moyer	Helen Zolnowsky

**\*Denotes hospice care**

*Purged at beginning of each month.*

*Renews are welcomed*

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

Issa Bechtel	Jason Charley	Rev. Lamar Handwerk
Joseph Hudy	Betty Humanick	Marian Humenick
Margaret Kresge	Mitchell Masters	Jean Piskula
Donald Schraden	Nel Stoudt	

## SCRIP Report • March 2025

Participants	- 11
Cards Ordered	- 50
Profit	- \$160.60

Orders Due **Sunday, April 13 (Palm Sunday)** with delivery on **Sunday, April 20 (Easter Sunday)**. Order scrip cards in April to have them in time for Mother's Day and College Graduation gift-giving! As a reminder, orders are open to everyone – **Please ask family and friends, neighbors and coworkers.**

New Members classes will be held on the following dates:  
June 1, 2025 ~ 11:15 am with members joining June 8, 2025.  
September 7, 2025 ~ 11:15 am with members joining September 14, 2025.

### **Mission Outreach for April is Autism Awareness**

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.

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

There are **extra weekly offering envelopes** in the Narthex on the **Financial** ~ e-Giving - Good Stewardship Made Easy

<https://get.tithe.ly/download-tithely-app>, text the word “**give**” to **610.615.7657**, or use your pre-addressed Church Envelopes.

**Thank you for prayerfully considering what you can afford.**

**Thank you to all who donated to VALOR.** We collected 5 winter coats, 1 pair of jeans, 1 head covering, 10 ball caps, 3 shirts, 17 pairs of socks, 1 sweater, 2 sweatpants, 1 pair of work boots, 10 sweatshirts and 77 hoodies. Awesome job!!

**Thank you** to all who donated soup and crackers for “Soup”er Bowl Sunday. We collected 175 cans of soup, 25 boxes of crackers and 25 pounds of miscellaneous foods and toiletries to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank. Thank you to Michele & Brett Hunsicker for being our liasons

### **April Birthdays**

Apr 1	Caleb Sommers	Apr 17	Jade Rice
Apr 2	Jennifer Fister	Apr 18	Aiden Solt
Apr 2	Weslie Frano	Apr 19	Carissa Fallon
Apr 2	Connor Solt	Apr 20	Drew Rice
Apr 3	Ahstin Creyer	Apr 20	Toby Sander
Apr 4	Karen Bachman	Apr 25	Bob Beblavy
Apr 4	Tina Minnich	Apr 26	Sean Palmer
Apr 5	Kendall Frantz	Apr 27	Benjamin Griffith
Apr 10	Wally Amey	Apr 27	Michael Smith
Apr 10	Ann Hayes	Apr 29	Joshua Banks
Apr 10	Jordan Hunsicker	Apr 29	Joseph Conway III
Apr 15	Randy Andrews	Apr 29	Freya Lynn Palmer
Apr 15	Nathan Flexer	Apr 30	Beau Pitruzzello
Apr 16	Roxy Schrader	Apr 30	Westin Redline
Apr 17	Vincenzo Fricchione	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 & Obie O'Brien

**Indoor Cleanup and Property Committee Meeting on Saturday,  
April 12 at 9:00 am.**

# Calendar

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### **April Worship Leaders**

Deacons:		Joe Conway	
	17	Susan Bankes	(Maundy Thursday)
	20	Amanda Smith	(Easter – 6 am)
	20	Joe Conway	(Easter – 10 am)
Elders:	17	Dennis Silfies	(Maundy Thursday)
	20	Pam Puskas	(Easter – 6 am)
	20	Tammy White	(Easter – 10 am)
Altar Guild:		Bonnie Hewitt	
Acolytes:	6	Kendall Frantz	
	13	Matthew Bowers	(Palm Sunday)
	17	TBD	(Maundy Thursday)
	18	at Heidelberg	(Good Friday)
	20	TBD	(Easter – 6 am)
	20	Holden Schaffer	(Easter – 10 am)
	27	Kendall Frantz	(Humor Sunday)
Lay Readers:	6	Dennis Silfies	
	13	Mary Storm	(Palm Sunday)
	17	Pastor James	(Maundy Thursday)
	18	at Heidelberg	(Good Friday)
	20	Amanda Smith	(Easter – 6 am)
	20	Kelsey Knittle – Moser	(Easter – 10 am)
	27	Susan Bankes	(Humor Sunday)
Greeters:	6	Karen Smith	
	13	Eileen Andrews	(Palm Sunday)
	17	TBD	(Maundy Thursday)
	18	at Heidelberg	(Good Friday)
	20	Colleen Shields & Family	(Easter – 6 am)
	20	The McGinnis Family	(Easter – 10 am)

We are **collecting canned corn** for **Easter** through **April 6** for **Northern Lehigh Food Bank.**

We are **collecting packages** of **individual fruit cups** for **Backpack Buddies** through **April 27.** Northern Lehigh School District serves about 100 families each week.



## **FAITH FORMATION UPDATE**

**Nursery** Faith Formation Leaders are looking for youngsters 5 years of age and under to join them in the nursery room Sunday mornings at 9 am. Contact Kelsey Knittle-Moser or Mary Storm for more information.

**Children's** Faith Formation is continuing to revamp their room and merging with the Youth Ensemble. If interested see Amanda Smith, Chastity Corvino, and/or Beth Kutzner. We will gather in the Fellowship Hall for a time of music on Sundays at 9 am.

**Youth** Faith Formation welcomes all young people in Grades 5 through 12 to join them in the youth lounge on Sundays at 9 am. Come and check out our new digs!

### **Prayers for Our College Students:**

Dane Badman at LCCC, Megan Bankes at Glenville State WV, Tyla Block at Widener, Aricka Creyer at LCCC, Carissa Fallon at Penn State, Riley Fallon at Penn State, Ben Griffith at Luzerne, Katy Griffith at Cedar Crest, Emma Hope at Kutztown, Sarah Hope at LCCC, Evan Horninger at DeSales, Olivia Horninger at Cedar Crest, Cece Pyfer at LCCC, Jade Rice at DeSales, Brody Ritter at the University of Delaware, Caden Shields at Muhlenberg, Colleen Shields at Strayer, Caleb Sommers at Kutztown, Calista Smoyer at West Virginia, Gabriella Smoyer at Cedar Crest, Luke Zook at Villanova.

### **Confirmation Schedule:**

**Session 11 ~ *Service & Mission***

**Date: Sunday, April 6, 2025; 11:15 am – Noon**

**Session 12 ~ *Church History***

**Date: Saturday, April 12, 2025; 9:00 am – 3:00 pm**

**Session 13 ~ *Polity***

**Date: Sunday, April 27, 2025; 11:15am – 1:00 pm**

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The Winner of the March Lottery was Rita Christman.



See Karen Smith to participate.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

We are **hosting Family Promise at Heidelberg UCC the week of April 27**. New volunteers are always welcome! Family Promise Volunteer requirements (only needed if you are serving in the capacity of evening host or overnight host) are the PA Criminal Background Check and Child Abuse Clearance as well as the Family Promise training which can be viewed at <https://fplehighvalley.org/volunteer>. Anyone interested in helping, please see Ann Hayes or email her at [ahayes2395@gmail.com](mailto:ahayes2395@gmail.com).

PNEC Spring Meeting will be May 3, 2025 at Union UCC Neffs.  
PNEC Fall Meeting and Final PNEC Meeting will be November 1, 2025 at St. John's UCC, Nazareth.

**Still looking for a youth to attend as a delegate for either meeting.**

**Cash & May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025**  
**1:00 pm**

**Gift Card**  
Doors open at Noon  
Kitchen will be open

**BINGO**

**\$25 20 Regular Games**  
**5 Specials**

All Regular Games Win  
\$25 Gift Card or \$25 Cash  
As Specified

All Special Games Win Various Cash Prizes

**Good Shepherd**  
**United Church of Christ**  
3940 Mountain Rd Slatington, PA 18080  
For Info Call Bonnie 484-225-2947  
1-800-258-3434

Tickets Sold in Advance or at the Door

[www.GoodShepherdUCCSlatington.org](http://www.GoodShepherdUCCSlatington.org) [www.facebook.com/GSUCCSlatington](https://www.facebook.com/GSUCCSlatington)

Join us for a special **Midweek Lenten Gathering** where we'll break bread, share soup, and open our hearts to learning from friends of different faith traditions. Through conversation and community, we'll explore the values we hold in common and discover new ways to walk together in love and understanding. Come for the soup, stay for the wisdom! All are welcome.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Faith Tradition</b>	<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Soup</b>
<b>4/2</b>	Buddhism	Joriki Baker	Corn Chowder
<b>4/9</b>	Islam	Sumaya Jeeva	Cheddar & Broccoli

### **EASTER SCHEDULE FOR 2025**

#### **APRIL**

- 13 – Palm Sunday (Procession with Donkey 9:45 am)
- 16 – Color Easter Eggs in Fellowship Hall – 6:00 pm  
(looking for plastic egg donations & candy to fill eggs)
- 17 – Maundy Thursday 7:00 pm with communion
- 18 – Good Friday Meditation Noon – 3:00 pm  
Good Friday Service at Heidelberg 7:00 pm
- 19 – Easter Egg Hunt ~ in person registration – 10:15 am – 10:50 am, Egg hunt starts at 11:00 am (looking for candy & prize donations, help needed Good Friday morning 9 am and Saturday morning 9:30 am)
- 20 – Easter Services 6:00 am/10:00 am with communion

#### **“WORTHY IS THE LAMB” EASTER CANTATA**

**April 13, 2025 (Palm Sunday) 4:00 pm**

**St. John's UCC, 15 S Second St, Slatington**

**610-767-5554**

**Experience the Joy of Easter Featuring St John's and a Community of Churches Choir (Refreshments to follow).**

## **Staying in Touch**

**Office Hours Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday**  
**8:00 am – 1:00 pm**

**Church Office:** 610-767-9680 Ext. 2

**Email:** [secretary@goodshepherduccslatington.org](mailto:secretary@goodshepherduccslatington.org)

**Pastor James' Mobile Phone:** 484-571-6083

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

Power Point Designers: Deb Craig, Eric Hantz

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

Webpage Designer: Marie Bachman-[goodshepherduccslatington.org](http://goodshepherduccslatington.org)

### **Snow, Ice, Winter Emergency Cancellations**

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