

## 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](http://www.facebook.com/GSUCC.Slatington)

Good Shepherd Faithfully serving ~ Compassionately accepting ~ Transforming together.

Mountain Reflections April 2026

### Resurrection Hope

Dear Friends and Members of Good Shepherd UCC ~

April brings us to Easter, the celebration of life stronger than death, hope stronger than despair, light stronger than the deepest shadows. The Holy One meets us at empty tombs and speaks our names in love, reminding us that new life is always possible.

Resurrection is not only an ancient miracle; it is a present reality. It is found in forgiveness offered, relationships restored, communities healed, and courage renewed. It is seen when someone feels seen for the first time, when justice moves one small step forward, when a burden is shared and lifted.

As we proclaim, "Christ is risen," may we also rise into compassion, into joy, into fearless service. Let us look around and ask: Where is new life breaking forth? How can we participate in it?

May this Easter season fill your spirit with renewed trust that the Holy One is always creating a way where we cannot yet see one.

In the joy of resurrection,

Pastor James

## APRIL LECTONARY

**April 5, 2026**

Lesson:

Meditation:

**Easter Sunday**

John 20:1-18

Easter Day

**April 12 2026**

Lesson:

Meditation:

**Holy Humor Sunday**

John 20:19-31

Holy Language

**April 19, 2026**

Lesson:

Meditation:

**3rd Sunday of Easter**

Luke 24:13-35

Breaking Bread

**April 26, 2026**

Lesson:

Meditation:

**4th Sunday of Easter**

Acts 2:42-47

Powerful Witness

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## COMMUNION SCHEDULE

Easter ~ Sunday, April 5, 2026 at 6:00 am and 10:00 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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**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.**

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There are **extra weekly offering envelopes** in the Narthex on the table. If you forgot your envelopes, do not have them or are not a member and want to use these, please feel free to help yourself.



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



**Homebound Members**

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

**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**

Karen Anthony	Diane Hardey	Ty Sander
Dot Arnold	Dean Harper	Gary Schneck
Bill Black*	Barbara Hower	Destinee Slanina
Shirley Blynn	Brett Hunsicker	John Slanina
Doug Farber	Gary Johannes	Steve Strohl
Donna Fox	Hayden Keller	Donna Tully
Brian Frey	Ed Krotine	Chris Walkowiak
Ruthann Fries	Lauri	Wehr Family
Steve George	Bobby Lewullis	Jenn Wentz
Lee Haas	Brett Moyer	Philip White
	Chris Oertner	John Zellner

**\*Denotes hospice care**

*Purged at beginning of each month.*

*Renews are welcomed*

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

Geraldine Boyer	Leona Demko	Rick Gross
Linda Lichtenwalner		Jesse Taylor

**Altar Flowers and Bulletins**

**Thank you** to our **March bulletin sponsors:**

March 15-In Honor of their Anniversary, by Gary & Jean Fatzinger.

**Thank you** to our **March flower sponsors:**

March 8-In Memory of Robert H. Balliet’s Birthday

by Madeline Balliet & Robin Bellesfield

March 15-To the Honor & Glory of God, by Pastor James

March 29-To the Glory of God and in Memory of Loved Ones

by Randy & Eileen Andrews

**Thank you** to our **March “Holy Grounds” sponsors:**

March 8 – In honor of Levi Schultz’s baptism

by Ralph & Emily Schultz

March 29 – To the Honor & Glory of God, by Pastor James

To sponsor flowers (\$35), bulletins (\$10), or “Holy Grounds” (\$5),

please place your name, and the person(s) to be honored or

remembered, on the calendar in the narthex and place your

contribution in the envelope and place it in the offering plate.

**Financial Peace University will begin on Wednesday, June 17 at**

**6:30 pm for 9 Wednesdays.** Stay tuned for details, click the link

below to register, or see Monica Griffith.

Class Link: <https://www.financialpeace.com/app/classes/4B6DF5>



**SCRIP Report • March 2026**

Participants	- 11
Cards Ordered	- 84
Profit	- \$161.98

Orders Due **Sunday, April 12** with delivery on **Sunday, April 19.**

Mother’s Day is May 10, so order your gift cards in April for celebrations and gift-giving! As a reminder, orders are open to everyone –

**Please ask family and friends, neighbors and coworkers.**

### April Birthdays

Apr 1	Caleb Sommers	Apr 19	Carissa Fallon
Apr 2	Jennifer Fister	Apr 20	Toby Sander
Apr 2	Weslie Frano	Apr 23	Jace Haas
Apr 2	Connor Solt	Apr 25	Bob Beblavy
Apr 3	Ahstin Creyer	Apr 26	Sean Palmer
Apr 4	Karen Bachman	Apr 26	Rawlynn Sander
Apr 4	Tina Minnich	Apr 27	Benjamin Griffith
Apr 5	Kendall Frantz	Apr 27	Michael Smith
Apr 10	Wally Amey	Apr 29	Joshua Banks
Apr 10	Ann Hayes	Apr 29	Joseph Conway III
Apr 10	Jordan Hunsicker	Apr 29	Freya Palmer
Apr 15	Randy Andrews	Apr 29	Samantha Shoemaker
Apr 15	Nathan Flexer	Apr 30	Kase Kohler
Apr 16	Roxy Schraden	Apr 30	Beau Pitruzzello
Apr 17	Vincenzo Fricchione	Apr 30	Westin Redline
Apr 17	Jade Rice	Apr 30	Holden Schaffer
Apr 18	Aiden Solt		

### 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

The Winner of the March Lottery was Gary Fatzinger.



See Karen Smith to participate.

# Calendar

# Calendar

## EASTER SCHEDULE FOR 2026

### APRIL

- 1 – Fill plastic eggs in Fellowship Hall – 6:00 pm  
(request for plastic egg donations & candy to fill them)
- 2 – Maundy Thursday 7:00 pm
- 3 – Good Friday Meditation Noon – 3:00 pm  
Good Friday Service at Good Shepherd 7:00 pm
- 4 – Easter Egg Hunt ~ in person registration – 10:15 am – 10:50 am, Egg hunt starts at 11:00 am (looking for candy & prize donations)
- 5 – Easter Services 6:00 am/10:00 am

### Easter Sunday Worship Leaders

	<b>Volunteers</b>	<b>Times</b>
Head Deacon:	Amanda Smith	(6 am)
	Joe Conway	(10 am)
Elder:	Pam Puskas	(6 am)
	Tammy White	(10 am)
Acolyte:	Mackenzi Palmer	(6 am)
	Callie McGinnis	(10 am)
Lay Reader:	Linda Coffin	(6 am)
	Pam Puskas	(10 am)
Greeters:	Krum & Shield Families	(6 am)
	Alice Kegel	(10 am)

You are always welcome at Chancel Choir whether you can sing every Sunday, or just a few Sundays, we would love to have you with us! The **Chancel Choir** meets on Tuesdays from 7-8 PM. Chancel Choir pieces for March include *My Savior's Hands and Feet*, *Easter Carol* and *River In Judea*.

### 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)

## **FAITH FORMATION NEWS**

Faith Formation Groups meet on Sunday mornings beginning at 9:00 AM with opening activities in the Fellowship Hall.

Opportunities include:

**Nursery** (Newborns to 5 year olds) with Mary Storm, Samantha Shoemaker, Kelsey & Jordan Knittle-Moser

**Children** (K thru 4<sup>th</sup> grade) with Amanda Smith, MaryAnn Storm, Phillip White

**Preteens** (5<sup>th</sup> thru 7<sup>th</sup> grade) with RaeAnne Creyer, Beth Frantz, Eric Hantz

**Youth** (8<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup> grade) with Monica Griffith

**College Faith Formation** with Marie Bachman, Pastor James

**Staff** – Pam Puskas, Deb Craig, Dennis Silfies, Beth Kutzner, Tammy White

**Sundae Sunday is June 28 after church.** Come enjoy a delicious sundae with as many toppings as you want!

**VBS** will begin on **July 13** at 6 pm and conclude **July 19** at 10 am. There will be a **campout on July 19 at 6 pm**, concluding with a **pancake breakfast Sunday morning, July 19 at 9:30 am.**

**Mini Golf at Bear Rock Junction** will be on **August 2 at noon.** Stay tuned for more more information!

**Faith Night** at the Iron Pigs Game, **Friday, August 28, 2026.**

**Tickets cost \$13**, which includes a \$2 food voucher. Game starts at 6:45 pm. See RaeAnne Creyer or email her at [raea06@gmail.com](mailto:raea06@gmail.com) for tickets or more information.


**Prayers for Students in higher education:** Dane Badman at LCCC, Tyla Block at Widener, Aricka Creyer at LCCC, Riley Fallon at Penn State, Ben Griffith at NCC, Katy Griffith at Cedar Crest, Emma Hope at Shippensburg, Sarah Hope 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, Gabriella Smoyer at Cedar Crest, Luke Zook at Villanova.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

The Fundraising Committee is having a **Cash & Gift Card Bingo** on **Saturday, May 16 at 1 pm**. Tickets are \$25 for 20 regular games and 5 specials. Doors open at noon. Kitchen will be open.

Fundraising Committee will be holding a meat raffle on **Sunday, June 28, after the church service**. Tickets will go on sale the Sunday after Easter. They will be \$5 per ticket. Please plan to sell to your friends, neighbors and coworkers. This will be an excellent opportunity to help the church raise money.

**Operation Warm their Toes** was a huge success. We donated 248 pair of socks, 4 sheets, 2 pillowcases, 1 decorative pillow, 3 comforters, 3 blankets and a dog blanket to VALOR. Thank you to all who donated.

 **Thank you** to all who donated soup and crackers for “Soup”er Bowl Sunday. We collected 130 cans of soup, 24 boxes of crackers, 30 pounds of miscellaneous food and 4 birthday cake kits for the Northern Lehigh Food Bank.

Mission Team is **collecting packages of individual fruit cups for Backpack Buddies through April 26**. We collected **268 oatmeal packets** for Jan/Feb. Thank you to all who donated. Northern Lehigh School District serves about 100 families each week.

We collected **180 cans of corn for Easter** for the Northern Lehigh Food Bank. **Thank you** to all who donated.

**Keystone Conference of the United Church of Christ’s first Annual Meeting** will be held **June 5-7 at Millersville University** in Millersville. Overnight accommodations will be on campus as well as the DoubleTree Hilton in Lancaster.

Our theme is “Joy at the Table Together” and our centering scripture is Acts 2:46-47 “Every day they met together, breaking bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God.”

The meeting will include a Service of Consecration for Keystone Conference.

**SPORTSMAN'S NIGHT RAFFLE WINNERS LIST**  
**February 21, 2026**

<b><u>Prize #</u></b>	<b><u>Winner</u></b>
1. Taurus G3C 9mm	Janine Schmoyer
2. Camo Crossbow Case	David Hess
3. Mossy Oak rechargeable Hand Warmers	Ryan Donovan
4. Camo Hunting Seat	Steven Merkel
5. Samurain Spin Casting Combo	Gregg Graver
6. Camo Rechargeable Spotlight	Ron Schwartz
7. Resetting Steel Target	Bob White
8. Fleece Lined Hand Warmer	Linda Wallace
9. Keystone Cricket 22L	Ty Sander
10. Metal Ammo Box	Wendy Beltz
11. Deer Family Wall Clock	Kevin Miller
12. Hunter 16Trail Cam	Courtney Corona
13. 4 Gun Safe Pistol Rack	Jim Smeer
14. Camo Back Pack	Randy Lentz
15. Savage Axis 6.5 Creedmoor	Randy Leikel

The **Fundraising Committee** would like to **thank all the volunteers** who came out to set up, cooked, baked, sold tickets, worked in the kitchen, and helped out behind the scenes to make **Sportsman's Night** a huge success. **Profits from the night totaled \$6,730.72.**

**Little Caesar's Pizza Sale** netted a **profit of \$946.** The Fundraising Committee would like to thank all who sold or bought pizza kits.

**Thank you** to all who assisted me in identifying the **First UCC Confirmation Classes** from 1950 through 1999 ~ Susan Bankes, Judy Bollinger, Debbie Derhammer, Gary & Jean Fatzinger, Biff Hayes and a special Thank You to **Dick Nothstein** for setting me on the right path in the beginning when it seemed like an overwhelming task and **Alice Kegel** who tirelessly tracked down members of First UCC to help identify confirmands. There are extra copies in the Narthex. Please help yourself.

**Thank you** to **Samantha Shoemaker** for putting all the pictures from First UCC on to flash drives.

Eileen Andrews, Secretary.

# Staying in Touch

Office Hours Tuesday, Wednesday 8:00 am – 1:00 pm  
Thursday 8:00 am – 12:00 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

## April Worship Leaders

Deacon:	Joe Conway
Altar Guild:	Bonnie Hewitt
Acolytes:	Callie McGinnis
	2 12 Jaxon Kline
	19 Holden White
	26 Holden White
Lay Readers:	2 Pastor James
	12 Darlene Nothstein
	19 Susan Bankes
	26 Pam Puskas
Greeters:	2 Elizabeth Alcaro
	12 Randy & Eileen Andrews
	19 Marie Bachman & Deb O'Brien
	26 Linda Henninger

Power Point Designers: Deb Craig, Eric Hantz

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

Web Designer: Marie Bachman