



## 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 2022

Dear Friends and Family of Good Shepherd UCC ~

Recently, someone shared an email that I had written in 1999 when I was just a newbie to ministry here at Good Shepherd. Considering the Easter season unfolding, I thought it would appropriate to share it with you all.

This particular email was written to my longtime friend and co-worker, Debbie Silfies, on the death of her father. And now, twenty-some years later, Debbie has entered that realm of perfect peace where she is reunited with him. I take comfort in knowing that her memory remains with us. It is the promise of the empty tomb and our Easter morning proclamation, "He is risen!"

Just remember that God is with you even now. I pray that you have the strength to walk through this dark time and that God's light will help you manage the grief and sadness of saying Goodbye to your father. I know we would like to keep our parents forever and in a way we do ~ your father will always be with you, through memories of breakfast and bells, Christmas gatherings and birthdays. He will always be that person who helped you become who you are. You and your sisters and brother will always be his special loves. It is in your family that you will always feel your father closest, and I pray that you will always feel their nearness to you and the special bond found only in the love shared by siblings who have lost both their parents so soon to each other. God bless you all with the love that will see you through.

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Can you read the Easter message in that? Do you feel comfort in knowing Christ's promises have been fulfilled for those we love so dearly? Is there comfort in knowing that our loved ones live on in those around us and even within ourselves?

I pray we here at Good Shepherd are filled with the love of God and are able follow the ways of Christ. May the Holy Spirit take us to our homes to find rest and in to all the world to offer service.

As always,

Rev. James D. Robison, Jr.

Pastor of Good Shepherd UCC Church

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

**APRIL LECTIONARY**

April 3, 2022	Lent 5	John 12:1-8
	<u>Gracious Ministries</u>	
April 10, 2022	Lent 6	Luke 19:28-40 ,
	<u>Passion Sunday</u>	
April 17, 2022	Easter Day	John 20:1-18
	<u>Resurrection Joy</u>	
April 24, 2022	Easter 2	Acts 5:27-32
	<u>Resurrection Witness</u>	

**HOLY WEEK COMMUNION AND WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Maundy Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm  
Good Friday Prayers, April 15<sup>th</sup> Noon  
Good Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm  
Sunrise Service Communion, April 17<sup>th</sup> 6:00am  
Easter Communion, April 17<sup>th</sup> 10:00am

***The Chancel Choir will be joined by a brass quartet for the 10:00 Easter service. Don't miss the excitement! Come sing with us.***

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>

**SUBSCRIBE** to our YouTube channel.

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

**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.**



**Altar Flowers and Bulletins**

**Given In 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 and/or bulletin sponsorship must be on the calendar by the prior Sunday. Linda Coffin is the Altar Guild contact.



**MISSION OUTREACH**

Mission For April is Autism Awareness [www.autismspeaks.org](http://www.autismspeaks.org)  
World Autism Awareness Day is celebrated on April 2. Every year, autism organizations around the world celebrate the day with unique fundraising and awareness-raising events. How will you celebrate? Use #LightItUpBlue to share your experience across social media and help light the world up blue this April!

**LENTEN WEDNESDAYS 6:30 pm:**

Then join us each Wednesday night at 6:30pm, during Lent, for our Annual Lenten Gatherings with Vegetarian-based Soup, Salad & conversations about our Hymns and why there were written, how they came to be in our Hymnal, current events in the life at Good Shepherd.

## **HOLY WEEK WORSHIP LEADERS**

### **Elder:**

April 14, Maundy Thursday, 7pm Tammy White

April 17, Easter Sunrise, 6am Pam Puskas

April 17, Easter, 10am Tammy White

### **Deacon:**

April 14, Maundy Thursday, 7pm Dennis Silfies

April 15, Good Friday, 7pm Dennis Silfies

April 17, Easter Sunrise, 6am Amanda Bowers

### **Acolyte:**

April 17, Easter Sunrise, 6am Jazmin Richardson

### **Greeters:**

April 17, 2022, Easter Sunrise, 6am TBD

April 17, 2022 Easter Service 10am Tammy White



### **Supporting Ukraine's Peoples**

At a recent Lenten Gathering we discussed the events of the invasion and devastation of Ukraine and its peoples. It was decided by consensus to raise \$4,000 through the Faith Formation Team,

Fellowship Team, Mission Team, and Youth Fellowship Team.

Those gathering on Wednesdays have agreed to give their offerings toward this cause. If you would be willing to make a generous donation by placing it in a special envelope for Ukraine with your name, or just put a check or cash donation in the Joyful Noise Box in the Narthex, it would be greatly appreciated.

So far, we have a commitment of \$3,000. Please prayerfully consider helping those in this war-torn country.

### **A prayer for Ukraine**

Loving God,

We pray for the people of Ukraine, for all those suffering or afraid, that you will be close to them and protect them. We pray for world leaders, for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their choices. We pray for the world that in this moment of crisis, we may reach out in solidarity to our brothers and sisters in need. May we walk in your ways so that peace and justice become a reality for the people of Ukraine and for all the world.

Amen.



Our Thoughts &  
Prayers  
are with...



**Homebound Members**

Mary Bilheimer	Dennis Derr	Betty Humanick
Kay Costenbader	Dolores Gruber	Susan 'Tillie' Waller
Dale-Ann Derr	Jean Hewitt	

**Those Serving Our Country In the Armed Services  
Or with The Department of Defense:**

Colby Adams	Michael Kelsey	Janel Tracy
Anthony Babb	Rebecca McMichael	Jacqueline Tracy
Elijah Colon	Cory Musser	Nicholas Sander
Kira (Kern) Kelsey	David Neff	Benjamin Schaffer
Karen Hulings	Spencer Perkins	

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

**Family & Friends**

Jane Achey	Nancy Heckman	Nancy Schumaker
Madeline Balliet	Jeff Hewitt	Dee Dee Sloane
Dave Bauer	Judy Kemmerer	Edgar Smith
Howard Bowers	"Kitch" Kitchell	Karen Smith
Sachelle Bunce	Wayne Koch	Craig Solt
Joe Conway	Francis Kuntz	Sallie Solt
Charles Erndl	Richard Kuntz	Marilyn Sowden
Lisa Gilly	Matt Rex	Rich Taylor
Bob Gross	Tara Rice	Susan 'Tillie' Waller
Delores Gruber	Tammy Schaeffer	
Jane Haldeman	Alice Schnell	

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

Nancy Borger	Richard Bowers	Scott Hinkle
	Dawn Kilgore	

*God* is watching over you...

I know because I asked God to

## Northern Lehigh Food Bank

**Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 ~**

Our goal is to receive 200 cans of corn for Easter meals for the Northern Lehigh food



bank. They can be brought in at any time to the front of the church.



## BASKET BINGO

**SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 2022**

**FEATURING**

**LONGABERGER® BASKET SETS & POTTERY**

**DOORS & KITCHEN OPEN @ 12:00 PM**

**~ GAMES START @ 1:00 PM ~**

**20 REGULAR GAMES COST - \$20.00**

**5 SPECIALS FOR \$5.00**

**PLEASE CALL Linda @ 484-294-5661 FOR ADVANCE TICKETS**

**- Longaberger® name used solely for prize description and is not sponsoring this Fundraiser -**

**All proceeds will Benefit Church Organ Fund**



## Outdoor Cleanup

**9:00 am**

**April 9th**

**Your Help is**

**Needed**

**Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**~ Drive-Thru Easter Egg "Hunt"**

**10am – 11am**

**Registration required**

**Easter Egg Hunt – Palm Sunday, April 10 deadline to have prizes, candy filled eggs, plastic eggs, candy, as well as COLORED hard-boiled eggs.**



Susie Blose has agreed to be at church on Wednesday, April 13, 6-7 p.m. for drop off of egg hunt items, eggs, candy, and prizes.

Friday, April 15, 9-noon those that can gather to set up for the egg hunt will meet in Fellowship Hall.

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Little Caesars

Orders due April 17<sup>th</sup>,  
delivery week of May 2<sup>nd</sup>

Order Forms in the narthex

**SAVE THE DATES**

**Saturday, May 21, 2022 ~ The Rededication Service**

First United Church of Christ Memorial Garden  
The Memorial Garden in its new location:  
Towamensing Cemetery, 3rd Street and Fireline Road, Palmerton

**Northern Lehigh Food Bank**

**Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

We need to collect 125 of each item for “Kids Packs”. Single  
Serve Fruit or Applesauce please bring to the church



**June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Vacation Bible School

Coming in June Watch for Information

Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup>  
Sportsman Night



Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup>  
Basket Social

Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup>  
Gift Card Bingo







## Staying in Touch

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

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

And also "Like" us on:

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

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

**CONTACTING PASTOR JAMES D. ROBISON, JR**

Church Office: 610-767-9680      Mobile Phone: 484-571-6083

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

### APRIL WORSHIP LEADERS

In Service of the Lord

**Deacon:** Amanda Bowers

**Acolytes:** April 3 Alex Beblavy

April 10 Aiden Solt

April 17 Noah Griffith

April 24 Adam Griffith

**Lay Readers:** April 3 Pam Puskas

April 10 Darlene Nothstein

April 17 Tammy White

April 24 Susie Blose

**Greeters:** April 3 Linda Bowers

April 10 Karen Smith

April 17 Tammy White

April 24 Barbara J. Neff

**Altar Guild:** Bonnie Hewitt

**Power Point Designer:** Deb Craig

**A/V Operators:** Eric Hantz, Bryan Horninger

Evan Horninger

**Videographer:** Beth Kutzner

### Faith Formation Classes

<u>Date</u>	<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Craft</u>
April 3	Pam Puskas	Pam Puskas
April 10	Pam Puskas	No Craft (Palm Sunday)
April 17	Susie Blose	Susie Blose
April 24	Deb Craig	Deb/Amanda



## 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.*

“Cultivate the habit of being grateful for every good thing that comes to you, and to give thanks continuously. And because all things have contributed to your advancement, you should include all things in your gratitude.”

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

Scrip is Fundraising  
While You Shop!™



<b>SCRIP Summary</b>	<b>March 2022</b>
Participants	11
Cards Ordered	82
Profit	\$181.28
Profit Year-To-Date	\$465.28

Next month's orders are due **Sunday, April 10th** and will be delivered on **Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>** **In time for Easter!**

### Financial

 Giving - Good Stewardship Made Easy

<https://get.tithely.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 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.

### LOTTERY TICKETS    **March winner: Eddie Smith**

Thank you for your Support  
See Karen Smith for next Lottery Tickets

# Calendar

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## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Apr 2	Connor Solt	Apr 20	Blake Snyder
Apr 3	Ahstin Creyer	Apr 20	Jeanette Christman
Apr 3	Abigail Dodd	Apr 20	Toby Sander
Apr 3	Lamont Kern	Apr 24	Matthew Anthony
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 5	David Williams, III	Apr 27	Joshua Bankes
Apr 10	Wally Amey	Apr 27	Benjamin Griffith
Apr 10	Jordan Hunsicker	Apr 29	Joseph Conway, III
Apr 15	Randy Andrews	Apr 29	Kamryn Fink
Apr 16	Roxy Schraden	Apr 29	Candy Hartwig
Apr 17	Tony Patrick	Apr 29	Alex Heckman
Apr 17	Jade Rice	Apr 30	Carson Blose
Apr 18	Aiden Solt	Apr 30	Stephen Herstitch, Sr.
Apr 19	Carissa Fallon	Apr 30	Beau Pitruzzello
Apr 20	Chelsea Bilheimer	Apr 30	Westin Redline
Apr 20	Drew Rice		

## APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

Apr 1	William & Donna (Berger) Heller
Apr 16	William & Diane (Wassum) Fister
Apr 16	Lee & Evelyn (Bachman) Haas
Apr 21	Joe & Pam (Bossons) Puskas
Apr 22	Dwayne & Janet (Matthews) Kern
Apr 24	Jeff & Linda (Bachman) Coffin
Apr 24	Jed & Lisa (Horninger) Gilly

