



GOOD SHEPHERD

UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

Pastor James D. Robison, Jr

3940 Mountain Road Slatington, PA 18080

www.GoodShepherdUCCSlatington.org www.facebook.com/GSUCC.Slatington
610/767-9680

Good Shepherd Faithfully serving ~ Compassionately accepting ~ Transforming together.

August 2026 ~ **Listening for Wisdom**

Dear Friends and Members of Good Shepherd UCC ~

August settles over us with its warm, lingering days, inviting a slower, attentive spirit. It is a good month for listening and noticing the quiet wisdom the Holy One plants in our lives.

Wisdom is not simply accumulated knowledge; it is the capacity to see with compassion, act with humility, and love with intention. It comes from paying attention to creation, to our neighbors, to our own deep longings. In listening, we often discover that God's voice sounds like peace, like justice, like encouragement to do what is loving and right.

As we move through these late-summer weeks, I encourage you to create moments of holy listening. Sit by water, walk beneath trees, or reflect at day's end. Ask the Spirit to reveal what you most need for the season ahead.

May this month be a teacher, showing us what truly matters and awakening us to the wisdom already within us.

Listening with you,

Pastor James

Mountain Reflections August 2026

AUGUST LECTIONARY

August 2, 2026

Scripture:

Meditation:

Summer Communion

Matthew 14:13-21

Face to Face

August 9, 2026

Scripture:

Meditation:

11th Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

When All Seems Lost

August 16, 2026

Scripture:

Meditation:

12th Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 45:1-15

Bold Moves

August 23, 2026

Scripture:

Meditation:

13th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 2:1-10

Be Transformed

August 30, 2026

Scripture:

Meditation:

14th Sunday after Pentecost

Romans 12:9-21

Spirit-Led Living

COMMUNION SCHEDULE

Summer Communion ~ Sunday, August 2, 2026 at 10:00 am

Labor Day Communion ~ Sunday, September 6, 2026 at 10:00 am

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>

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.

Looking for office volunteers who would be able and willing to scan a large number of photos and put them on a flash drive (provided) as a way to preserve our congregation’s history. Please contact Pastor James or Eileen Andrews if you would like to help.



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

Tom Alcaro	Steve George	Chris Oertner
Karen Anthony	Lee Haas	Randy Parks
Gail Bell	Diane Hardy	Bryan Puskas
Marc Benninger	Cheryl Henning	Grace Ramely
Howard Bilheimer	Barbara Hower	Diane Reitz*
Dale Bossons	Brett Hunsicker	Ty Sander
Michael Bossons	Gary Johannes	Gary Schneck
Lori Clay	Penny Keen	Barry Silfies
Deb Derhammer	Hayden Keller	Eddie Smith
Doug Farber	Jim Koneschusky	Barry Soldridge
Donna Fox	Bruce Kralik	Bonnie Spangler
Jennifer Frohnheiser	Don Kutzner	Jenn Wentz
	Lauri	John Zellner

***Denotes hospice care**

Purged at beginning of each month, Renewals are welcomed

For The Families Of Those Who Have Entered Eternal Life:

Jeffrey Bilheimer	Sherry Castello	Kathy Christman
Beaty Christoff	William "Bill" George	Jonathan Williams

Altar Flowers and Bulletins

Thank you to our **July Bulletin Sponsor:**

July 12-In Honor of granddaughter, Raelyn Rinker's birthday
by Tammy Schaeffer.

July 17-In Honor of all who helped with VBS by Linda Soldridge.

Thank you to our **July Flower Sponsor:**

July 5-In Honor of our country's 250th birthday by Pastor James.

Thank you to our **July Holy Grounds Sponsor:** Pam Puskas

Mission Outreach for August is Habitat for Humanity of the Lehigh Valley habitatlv.org

Their mission is to provide hardworking families with simple, decent affordable housing. They work in partnership with families to help them secure a better place to live and raise their families.

Mission Team is **collecting canned spaghetti with pull top tabs for Backpack Buddies through August 31.**

We collected 413 individual packs of goldfish during May and June. Northern Lehigh School District serves about 100 families each week. Thank you to all who donated.

SCRIP Summary • July2026

Participants	— 7
Cards Ordered	— 42
Profit	— \$119.94

This month's orders will be due on Sunday, August 9 with delivery on Sunday, August 16.

As a reminder, orders are open to everyone — *please ask family and friends, neighbors and coworkers!*

Thank you to our July volunteers for cutting the grass: Dean Harper, Horninger Family, Kevin Minnich, Evan Shoemaker, and Craig Solt. We need mowers for the following weeks: **August 9, August 30, September 20, September 27,** and the **month of October** Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. The church provides the riding mower and the gas.

August Anniversaries

Aug 2	Craig & Sheri (Young) Fallon, Jr.
Aug 5	Todd & Julie (Coffin) Solt
Aug 7	Edwin & Dena (Weil) Krum
Aug 15	Bryan & Amy (Heffelfinger) Horninger
Aug 16	Sean & Brandi (DeLong) Palmer
Aug 17	Nathan & Cassie (Knittle) Flexer
Aug 17	Robert & Cynthia (Sowden) Schramel
Aug 18	David & Carol (Kroboth) Blose
Aug 20	Tyler & Kayla (Belles) Schappell
Aug 23	Frank & Jean (Bowman) Gellis
Aug 23	Mark & Tammy (Whitenight) Schaeffer
Aug 26	Frank & Linda (Fritz) Soldridge

August Birthdays

Aug 1	Jackson Koneschusky	Aug 17	Amy Knittle
Aug 2	Lori Balliet	Aug 17	Susan Patrick
Aug 2	Mitchell Hourt	Aug 18	David Blose
Aug 3	Chelsea Harding	Aug 18	Sean Harding
Aug 3	Jeffrey Storm	Aug 18	Denise Koons
Aug 3	Dalton White	Aug 20	Tanner Rice
Aug 8	Kelsey Knittle-Moser	Aug 21	Joanne Bechtel
Aug 8	Marie Reitz	Aug 21	Trevor Hartmaier
Aug 8	Craig Solt	Aug 21	Debbie Ritter
Aug 9	Noah Griffith	Aug 21	James Robison, Jr.
Aug 9	Alice Kegel	Aug 25	Blaine Reitz
Aug 10	Robert White	Aug 25	MaryAnn Wallace
Aug 12	Jean Gellis	Aug 26	Stephanie Fister
Aug 12	Arthur Kuntz	Aug 27	Gary Bellesfield
Aug 15	Kayla Sander	Aug 28	Drew Fatzinger, Jr.
Aug 16	Shirley Phillips	Aug 29	Karl Heffelfinger
Aug 16	Kristine Rinker	Aug 29	Taylor Rex
Aug 16	Bryler Rodrigues	Aug 30	Cameron Shields
Aug 16	Seth White	Aug 31	Brody Ritter

Calendar

Calendar

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fundraising will once again be offering **Boscov's Friends Helping Friends Shopping Passes** for a \$5.00 donation. The pass will be good for on-line and in store shopping on

Wednesday, October 21st, 2026 from 8 AM - 11 PM. Last year we took in a profit of \$535.00. If anyone is interested, passes will be available in the narthex. We also encourage everyone to help with promoting this worthwhile project. A prize will be awarded to the person taking in the most donations.

Love Your Neighbor Churches **FUNDRAISER** for Medical Debt Relief **Now through August 15th.**

Over 100,000,000 adults nationwide have medical debt that negatively impacts their lives. We can change this!

Union UCC and Friends did this last year and raised over \$10,000 erasing over \$1.1 million of medical debt for 857 patients across Lehigh County.

Every \$10 donated relieves \$1,000 of medical debt.

Donate anytime between now and August 15th.

A group of churches are gathering around this effort again challenging us to join together to erase all of the medical debt in Lehigh and Northampton counties.

That's \$20,000 to raise, erasing almost \$3 million of debt in our region!

JOIN US TO CELEBRATE!

COMMUNITY-WIDE PICNIC & CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15TH 3PM-7PM

Union UCC Grove 5550 Route 873 Neffs, PA

Food * Music * Playground * Gift Card and Cash Raffle

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL AMOUNT RAISED!

Donate at: <https://unduemedicaldebt.org/campaign/love-your-neighbor-churches-friends/>

The Winner of the July Lottery was: Stephanie Gursky.



See Karen Smith to participate

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Summer Hiatus

August 2, 2026 at noon-Mini Golf at Bear Rock Junction. See RaeAnne Creyer for more information.

Friday, August 28, 2026.-Faith Night at the Iron Pigs Game, **Tickets cost \$13**, which includes a \$2 food voucher. Game starts at 6:45 pm. See RaeAnne Creyer or email her at raeaa06@gmail.com for tickets or more information.

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism was celebrated for Charlotte Anin Carbin on July 5, 2026 **at Good Shepherd UCC.** Charlotte, born November 17, 2024, is the daughter of Darrin & Angela (Long) Carbin. His grandparents Randy & Cindy (Passaro) Long Parks are members of Good Shepherd UCC. Welcome Charlotte!!!

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism was celebrated for Zoey Ann Frable on July 12, 2026 **at Good Shepherd UCC.** Zoey, born November 4, 2024, is the daughter of Victoria Snyder and Jeremy Frable. Welcome Zoey!!!

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism was celebrated for Leo Charles Smith on July 12, 2026 **at Good Shepherd UCC.** Leo, born November 22, 2024, is the son of Tyler & Caitlin (Haberin) Smith. His great grandmother, Frances (Hewitt) Kuntz, is a member of Good Shepherd. Leo's godparents, Trent & Amanda (Bowers) Smith, are also members of Good Shepherd. Welcome Leo!!!

Summer Breakfast Bunch at St. John's Lutheran Church, Slatington will provide breakfast and a bag lunch Monday through Friday from 8:30 – 10 am. The program will run from June 15-August 24 for ages 2 – 17. Volunteers and monetary donations or gift cards to local grocery stores are needed. To volunteer or donate, please call the office at St. John's Lutheran Church at 610-767-6361 or email the church at stjohnslatington@gmail.com.

Church Outdoor Service & Picnic, Sunday, September 20, 2026. Sign-up sheets in the Narthex.

Financial Peace University, Wednesday's 6:30-8 pm taught by Monica Griffith again this summer. Remaining dates are August 5, 12 and 19th. See Monica Griffith for more information. **It's not too late to register.** You have up to a year after you register to access the course information and to make up any missed sessions.

LESSONS

Lesson 6:	Understanding Insurance	Wednesday, Jul 29, 2026
Lesson 7:	Building Wealth	Wednesday, Aug 5, 2026
Lesson 8:	Buying & Selling Your Home	Wednesday, Aug 12, 2026
Lesson 9:	Outrageous Generosity	Wednesday, Aug 19, 2026

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



Noah Griffith's Eagle Scout Service Project, the new Christian Education Classroom is complete. Stop in and see it. Great job Noah! Thank you to Richard Schock & Michele Schock, who donated their cabinetry & woodworking time and talents. Thank you to the following: Evan Shoemaker, who donated his electrical technology time and talents; Sean Palmer, who donated his carpentry & contractor time and talents; the Scouts and Leaders of Troop 72, Camp Spirit, Fogelsville, who donated their painting time and talents.

We need volunteers in 3 areas of worship.

Looking for someone to **set up the Power Point** for **Sunday services**. This can be done remotely. Contact Eric Hantz, Eileen Andrews or Pastor James if you are interested.

Looking for someone to take **Baptismal pictures of the family for the Baptismal certificates**. Please see Pastor James if interested. Printer, camera and flash drive will be provided.

Acolytes, lay readers & greeters needed for the fall. Signup sheets are in the Narthex.

MEAT RAFFLE WINNERS LIST

July 28, 2026

<u>Prize #</u>	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Seller</u>
1. \$100.00 Cash	Tom Litchauer	Linda Soldridge
2. \$30 Thomson's Gift Card	Linda Soldridge	Self
3. Ground Beef \$30	Eric Acker	
4. \$30 Thomson's Gift Card	Floyd Trexler	Linda Henninger
5. NY Strip Steak \$30	Ron Leikel	Sue
6. \$50 Cash	Ed Stolly	Bryan Horninger
7. Chicken Breasts \$30	Karen Luipersheck	Kevin Smith
8. \$30 Thomson's Gift Card	Rae Ann Creyer	Self
9. Pork Roast \$30	Matt Shields, Sr.	Matt Shields, Sr.
10. \$30 Cash	Chris Kegel	Alice Kegel
11. Delmonico Steaks \$30	Halston Heminitz	Marie Bachman
12. \$30 Thomson's Gift Card	Tracey Gursky	Self
13. Icelandic Haddock \$30	Ernest Moyer	Janice Silliman
14. \$30 Cash	Donna Bowers	Shirley Phillips
15. Fresh Sausage \$30	Kyle Campbell	Linda Henninger
16. Roast Beef	Jarret Berger	Rae Ann Creyer
17. \$40 Thomson's Gift Card	Omar Safi	Carol Krum
18. Black Diamond Steaks \$30	Ron Schwartz	Kim Rex
19. Pork Chops \$30	Darlene Nothstein	Self
20. \$50 Cash	Shirley Phillips	Self

The profit made from the Meat Raffle was \$4,272.08.

Thank you to all who volunteered and participated.

Special Music for August Worship Services

August 2-Breonna Richardson, Liturgical Dance

August 9-Lydia DeLong, soloist

August 23-Brian Eckert, trumpet

Thank you to our July Worship Services Special Music Guests:

July 5-Pam Puskas & Darlene Nothstein, Duet

July 12-Eric Hantz

July 19-Dave Matsinko, Guitar

July 26-Mackenzi Palmer, Clarinet

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

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/Interim Choir Director	Dr. Yezi Chen
Secretary	Eileen Andrews
Treasurer	Tammy White
Financial Secretary	Colleen Shields
Sexton	Matthew Shields

August Worship Leaders

Deacon:	Joe Conway
Head Elder:	Pam Puskas
Altar Guild:	Sharon Conway
Acolytes:	2 Jaxon Kline
	9 Callie McGinnis
	16 Jaxon Kline
	23 Mackenzi Palmer
	30 Jaxon Kline
Lay Readers:	2 Eric Hantz
	9 Rae Anne Creyer
	16 Monica Griffith
	23 Marie Bachman
	30 Marie Bachman
Greeters:	2 Alice Kegel
	9 Rae Anne Creyer & Wynn
	16 Bonnie Hewitt
	23 Kathy Elston & Michael Passaro
	30 Kevin & Tina Minnich

Power Point Designers: Deb Craig, Eric Hantz

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

Web Designer: Marie Bachman