



GOOD SHEPHERD UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

3940 Mountain Road, Slatington, PA 18080 610-767-9680

AUGUST 23, 2026

Glance at the Week Ahead at Good Shepherd

Office Hours: T W 8:00 am – 1:00 pm
TH 8:00 am – 12:00 pm

Sun: 10:00 am **Sunday Worship**
Fri: 6:45 pm Faith Night at Iron Pigs
7:00 pm AA Back to Basics
Sun: 10:00 am **Sunday Worship**
12:00 pm VALOR Dinner Delivered

First-Time Guests

Welcome to Good Shepherd, an Open and Affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ. We are delighted that you joined us for worship. If you are looking for a spiritual home, please consider Good Shepherd and speak with Pastor James.
REV. JAMES D. ROBISON, JR. can be contacted at the office (610) 767-9680, his mobile phone (484-571-6083), or via his email address at <jamdarrob@gmail.com>.

Our Church Staff

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

Filming Disclosure: Our services are filmed and recorded for online viewers. As worshipers’ faces may be captured, your entry into the Sanctuary constitutes your consent to be photographed, filmed and/or otherwise recorded for streaming or social purposes.

Mission Calendar for August is Habitat for Humanity of the Lehigh Valley

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.

Joyful Noise

Joyful Noise Offering is an outreach mission of the church that goes to individuals or families in need. Please drop your contributions into the small colored buckets during the offering.

Update Offering & (Attendance)

Aug 02-\$1,532.40 E-Giving \$201.05 (93)
Aug 09-\$1,750.00 E-Giving \$757.68 (100)
Aug 16-\$2,940.00 E-Giving \$347.34 (60)

Online offering at [Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly)
or text GIVE to 610-615-7657



We are now streaming on both Facebook and YouTube, both of which have icons on the Good Shepherd United Church of Christ website. If you’ve had trouble with the streaming volume not being loud enough on Facebook, click on the YouTube link and see if that improves it.

Upcoming Events in the Life of Our Church

- We are collecting individual cans of pasta (pull tab top) for Backpack Buddies through August 31. We collected 413 individual packages of goldfish in May & June. Thank you all for your donations. Northern Lehigh School District serves about 100 families each week.
- Altar Guild is asking for empty plastic Blue Bunny ice cream containers for taking home Altar Flowers.
- We are looking for sponsors for Bulletins, flowers and Holy Grounds refreshments. Please sign up on the calendar on the bulletin board.
- Looking for someone to take Baptismal pictures of the family for Baptismal certificates.
- Mini Golf at Bear Rock Junction has been rescheduled for Sunday, September, September 13 at noon. There will be pizza after church in Fellowship Hall before heading out to the golf course.
- We are collecting individual cans of pasta (pull tab top) for Backpack Buddies through August 31. We collected 413 individual packages of goldfish in May & June. Thank you all for your donations.
- Outdoor Worship & Picnic, Sunday, September 20, 2026. Sign-up sheets in the Narthex for casseroles & desserts, adult & children prizes for games, and to donate a cake for the cake walk.
- Walk-In Basket Social Saturday, October 3, 2026. Sign-up sheets in the Narthex for baskets, donations to make baskets, baked goods, and/or help the day of the social.
- \$5 Boscov’s Shopping Passes available in the Narthex for online/ in store shopping Wed. October 21.
- Looking for volunteers to mow grass for the weeks of August 30, September 20, September 27, and the month of October. Mowers and gas are provided by the church. Sign up in the Narthex.
- 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) to preserve our congregation’s history. Please contact Pastor James or Eileen Andrews if you would like to help.

Good Shepherd Prayer Care List

Families of...Michael James, Mary Kent

Family and Friends needing prayer: Jean Fatzinger, Megane Streisel, Barbara Beltz, Deb Derhammer, Jennifer Frohnheiser, Lee Haas, Diane Hardey, Brett Hunsicker, Bruce Kralik, Don Kutzner, Pam Puskas, Jameson & Krissy Scott, Carol Ziegenfus, Tom Alcaro, Karen Anthony, Gail Bell, Marc Benninger, Howard Bilheimer, Lori Clay, Doug Farber, Donna Fox, Steve George, Barbara Hower, Gary Johannes, Hayden Keller, Laurie, Chris Oertner, Randy Parks, Ty Sander, Gary Schneck, Barry Soldridge, Donna Tully, Jenn Wentz, John Zellner

Homebound Members: Marge Bass, Mary Bilheimer, Shirley Blynn, Kay Costenbader, Dennis Derr, Donna Fox, Judy Mack, Carol Schweitzer, and ‘Tillie’ Waller.

All the young men and women serving our country: Colby Adams, Anthony Babb, Sean Bolza, Kira (Kern) Kelsey, Michael Kelsey, Marcus Loch, Rebecca McMichael, Jacob Molchan, Adam Moyer, Jacqueline Moyer, Spencer Perkins, and Janel Tracy.

Our Worship Leaders Today

Acolyte
Guest Speaker
Special Music
Head Deacon
Lay Reader
Greeters
Altar Guild
Media Team

Mackenzi Palmer
Rev. Candi Cain-Borgman
Dennis Silfies, Soloist
Joe Conway
Marie Bachman
Kathy Elston & Michael Passaro
Sharon Conway

Marie Bachman, Deb Craig, Riley Fallon, Tracey Gursky,
Eric Hantz, Bryan Horninger, Evan Horninger, and Beth Kutzner

Altar Flowers are to the Honor and Glory of God.

Bulletins are to the Glory of God and in Honor of daughter, Kristine Rinker's birthday by Tammy Schaeffer.



Birthdays

Aug 23-Blaine Reitz
Aug 23-MaryAnn Storm
Aug 26-Stephanie Fister
Aug 27-Gary Bellesfield
Aug 28-Drew Fatzinger, Jr.
Aug 29-Karl Heffelfinger
Aug 29-Taylor Rex



Anniversaries

Aug 23-Frank & Jean (Bowman) Gellis
Aug 23-Mark & Tammy (Whitenight) Schaeffer
Aug 26-Frank & Linda (Fritz) Soldridge

GOOD SHEPHERD UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 2026
13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

ORDER OF WORSHIP

AUGUST 23, 2026 - THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

“Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness.” ~ Desmond Tutu

NOTE: People’s responses in **bold**; * rise in body, mind, or spirit

Gathering for God's WORD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE ~ *Ancient Words*

* **SOLEMN DECLARATION**

Our service is in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

God is at work even when the future seems uncertain. **We gather trusting in God’s faithful presence.**

God brings courage through unexpected people and surprising acts of compassion. **We come to receive strength for the journey ahead.**

God watches over the vulnerable and calls us to be instruments of hope. **Let us worship the God who guides, protects, and renews all life.**

* **HYMN** ~ *Surely the Presence of the Lord*

#263

* **OPENING PRAYER**

Compassionate God, You are present even in life's most uncertain moments. As You watched over the child Moses and worked through the courage of ordinary people, remind us that Your purposes are often revealed through simple acts of love, mercy, and justice. Open our hearts to trust Your guidance, even when we cannot see the whole path before us. Fill us with courage to care for those who are vulnerable and wisdom to follow where Your

Spirit leads. We offer this time of worship to You with grateful hearts. Amen.

PRAISE VERSICLE ~ *Glory Be to the Father

#35

Celebrating God's WORD in Our Midst

CONVERSATION WITH OUR YOUNGSTERS

BLESSINGS FOR JOYS AND/OR CONCERNS

Hearing God's WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of wisdom Your WORD has guided generations of Your people through times of uncertainty and hope. May Your Spirit help us hear Your call with faith and respond with courage. Amen!

A READING from the Hebrew text of Exodus 2:1-10 [NRSVUE]

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son, and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. “This must be one of the Hebrews’ children,” she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh’s daughter, “Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?” Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Yes.” So the girl went and called the child’s mother. Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.” So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up,

she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

RESPONSE

The **WORD** of the Lord. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Reflecting on God's **WORD**

HOMILY ~ Be Transformed

SPECIAL MUSIC ~ *You'll Never Walk Alone*

Dennis Silfies

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father which art in heaven, **Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Responding to God's **WORD**

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

The story of Moses reminds us that lives are changed through acts of compassion and courage. **As we present our offerings today, may we remember that every gift, whether large or small, becomes part of God's work of bringing hope, justice, and new life. Amen.**

OFFERTORY ~ *I Will Arise and Go to Jesus*

*** DOXOLOGY**

#47

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God, all creatures here below
Praise God above, ye heavenly host
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Faithful God, receive these gifts as signs of our gratitude and trust. Bless them and use them to care for those in need, to nurture hope where there is despair, and to strengthen ministries of compassion and justice. May our offerings, and our lives, reflect the courage and generosity of those who answered Your call long ago. Guide us to become bearers of Your love in our community and throughout the world. In Your holy name we pray. Amen.

*** HYMN ~ *Standing on the Promises***

#552

Living God's WORD

*** THE COMMISSION, BENEDICTION, AND THREE-FOLD
AMEN #312**

POSTLUDE ~ *Lead On, O King Eternal*

**OUR WORSHIP TOGETHER HAS ENDED;
OUR SERVICE TO OTHERS BEGINS**

Liturgy by Pastor James based on ChatGPT 3.5

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