

## 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 December 2021

Dear Family and Friends of Good Shepherd,

### I Corinthians 13 (*A Christmas Version*)

If I decorate my house perfectly with plaid bows, strands of twinkling lights and shiny balls, but do not show love to my family, I'm just another decorator.

If I slave away in the kitchen, baking dozens of Christmas cookies, preparing gourmet meals and arranging a beautifully adorned table at mealtime, but do not show love to my friends, I'm just another cook.

If I work at the soup kitchen, carol in the nursing home and give all that I have to charity, but do not show love to a stranger, it profits me nothing.

If I trim the spruce with shimmering angels and crocheted snowflakes, attend a myriad of holiday parties and sing in the choir's cantata, but do not focus on those I love the most, I have missed the point.

...In other words,

Love stops the cooking to hug a child

Love sets aside the decorating to kiss the spouse

Love is kind, though harried and tired

Love doesn't envy another's home that has coordinated  
Christmas china and table linens

Love doesn't yell at the kids to get out of the way, but is  
thankful they are there to be in the way

Love doesn't give only to those who are able to give in  
return

but rejoice in giving to those who can't

Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things,  
endures all things

Love never fails,

Video games will break, pearl necklaces will be lost, golf  
clubs will rust

But the gift of love will endure.

Lovingly, Pastor James



**DECEMBER LECTIONARY**

December 5, 2021 **Advent 2**

Luke 1:68–79

*Messengers of Change*

December 12, 2021 **Advent 3**

Luke 3:7–18

*What Should We Do?*

December 19, 2021 **Advent 4**

Luke 1:39–45, (46–55)

*Nurturing God's Promise*

December 26, 2021 **Christmas 1**

1 Samuel 2:18–20, 26

*Finding Joy*



**COMMUNION SCHEDULE**

**December 24th Christmas Eve**

**3pm/5pm/11pm**

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.





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**

Gary Fatzinger	Mark Sloan	Shirley Zellner
James Ruch	Winifred Strauss	
Debbie Sloan	Bob Zellner	

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

Sally Haas	Marion Straub	Doris Jean Wright
John Kisthart	Robert (Bob) Tully	
Tom McIntyre	Ray Williams	

*God* is watching over you...

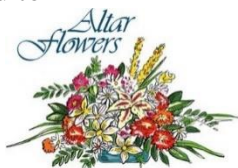
I know because I asked God to



**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 in memory of, 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.



**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.**



**Faith and Mission**

For December is AIDs Awareness

If you would like to participate in our offering, please sign the Faith & Mission Calendar in the narthex with the name of a loved one you would like to honor or remember, along with your name, and then place a donation in a “Faith & Mission” envelope and put it in the Faith & Mission box or offering plate. [www.aids.org](http://www.aids.org) The mission of AIDS.ORG is to help prevent HIV infections and to improve the lives of those affected by HIV and AIDS by providing education and facilitating the free and open exchange of knowledge at an easy-to-find centralized website

**The Stewardship Group of the Resource Team**

We want to thank the 34 giving units that returned their blue faith promise response. A total of \$62,324 has been designated as contributions from this response for 2022 along with many people volunteering for Committees, Teams, Groups, and other things like Office Volunteers.



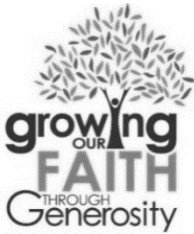
## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Dec 1	Ares Davis	Dec 18	Katie Koneschusky
Dec 2	Sandra White	Dec 18	Terri Miller
Dec 3	Allen Lichtenwalner	Dec 18	Robert Schramel Sr.
Dec 3	Sallie Solt	Dec 18	Kennedy DeAngelo
Dec 6	Stephanie Reimert	Dec 20	Robert Shelly
Dec 8	Dorothy Arnold	Dec 21	Evan Horninger
Dec 8	Carol Oswald	Dec 21	Ashley White
Dec 8	Katie Davis	Dec 21	John Zellner
Dec 9	Marie Bachman	Dec 21	Tim Storm
Dec 9	Wesley Loch	Dec 23	Aricka Creyer
Dec 9	Mason Meinhart	Dec 23	Asa Blynn
Dec 9	Amber Orendach	Dec 24	Carol Krum
Dec 9	Joshua Richardson	Dec 25	“JESUS”
Dec 9	Calista Smoyer	Dec 25	Larry Lacy Sr.
Dec 9	Shirley Blynn	Dec 25	Donovan White
Dec 10	Dawn Beblavy	Dec 25	Joshua Meckes
Dec 10	Eli Heilman	Dec 26	Michael Bowers
Dec 10	Kevin Heilman	Dec 26	Rae Anne Creyer
Dec 13	Marilyn Smith	Dec 27	Dave Neff, Jr.
Dec 14	Evelyn Haas	Dec 28	Michael Kern
Dec 14	Tyler Bartholomew	Dec 30	Marcus Kremposky
Dec 15	Keith Horn	Dec 31	Michael Stafiniak



## DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- Dec 1      Kevin & Jenelle (Frohnheiser) Heilman
- Dec 3      Allen & Robin (Zancofsky) Lichtenwalner
- Dec 10     Mathew & Amber (Miller) Snyder
- Dec 13     Greg & Tami (Diefenderfer) Schuck
- Dec 27     Arthur & Lisa (Smith) Kuntz



## 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.*

I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints,

Ephesians 1:16-18

### SCRIP Summary


**November 2021**

Participants	27	December's orders are due and delivered one week earlier than normal - this will be the last order before Christmas!!
Cards Ordered	207	
Profit	\$6,657.00	
Profit Year-To-Date	\$373.45	

Next month's orders are due **Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup>** and will be delivered on **Sunday, December 12<sup>st</sup>**

### Financial Update

Oct 24	\$1,085.00	E-giving	\$639.82	(57)
Oct 31	\$2,260.00	E-giving	\$330.00	(84)
Nov 07	\$6,925.00	E-giving	\$154.12	(105)
Nov 14	\$1,115.00	E-giving	\$420.00	( 83)

 Giving - Good Stewardship Made Easy

<https://get.tithe.ly/download-tithely-app>

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.

*Christmas Eve*  
*Candlelight Communion Service*

**Friday, December 24<sup>th</sup>**  
**Christmas Eve**  
**3pm/5pm/11pm**

*"She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."*

*Matthew 1:21*

*Good Shepherd*

*United Church of Christ*

*3940 Mountain Rd*

*Slatington, Pa 18071*

*610/767-9680*

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**The Chancel Choir**

The Chancel Choir will be celebrating the Christmas Season with their annual Christmas Party on December 19th. The party will take place in the social hall from 5-8 pm. Choir members and their spouse/significant others are invited to attend.



**The Youth Ensemble**



The Youth Ensemble has been active this fall season playing bells and singing during church services. All youth of the church are invited to join us the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sundays of the month, from 11:00 am-11:45. The Youth Ensemble will be having a Christmas Party on December 19th from 11:00 am-1:00 pm.

## Staying in Touch

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

And also "Like" us on:

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

Contact Susan Layland

[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

### **DECEMBER WORSHIP LEADERS**

**In Service of the Lord**

**Elder:**    *December 24, 2021, (Friday) Christmas Eve*

3pm            Pam Puskas

5pm            Susie Blose

11pm          Chris Kegel

**Deacon:**    Mary Storm

*December 24, 2021, (Friday) Christmas Eve*

3pm            Mary Storm

5pm            Amanda Bowers

11pm          Jim George

**Acolytes:**    Sunday December 5            Aiden Solt  
                         Sunday December 12        Patrick Conway  
                         Sunday December 19        Noah Griffith  
                         Sunday December 26        Jazmin Richardson

*December 24, 2021, (Friday) Christmas Eve*

3pm            Kyan Block

5pm            Aiden Solt

11pm          Cameron Shields

**Lay Readers:**    Sunday December 5        RaeAnn Creyer  
                         Sunday December 12        Dennis Silfies  
                         Sunday December 19        Darlene Nothstein  
                         Sunday December 26        Pam Puskas

**Altar Guild:**    Mary Storm

**Power Point Designer:**    Deb Craig

**A/V Operators:**    Eric Hantz, Bryan Horninger  
   Evan Horninger, Stacy Cunningham

**Videographer:**    Beth Kutzner, Stacy Cunningham



# BLUE MOUNTAIN FARMS

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Cash / Check \_\_\_\_\_

**Due December 12th, 2021**  
Christmas December, 2021

## Red Poinsettias

_____ 1 Plant	6.5"pot	\$10.00
_____ 2 Plants	7.5"pot	\$13.50
_____ 3 Plants	8" pot	\$18.25
_____ 4 Plants	10"pot	\$32.00

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## White Poinsettias

|                |         |         |
|----------------|---------|---------|
| _____ 1 Plant  | 6.5"pot | \$10.00 |
| _____ 2 Plants | 7.5"pot | \$13.50 |
| _____ 3 Plants | 8" pot  | \$18.25 |
| _____ 4 Plants | 10"pot  | \$32.00 |

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## Marble Poinsettias

_____ 1 Plant	6.5"pot	\$10.00
_____ 2 Plants	7.5"pot	\$13.50
_____ 3 Plants	8" pot	\$18.25
_____ 4 Plants	10"pot	\$32.00

Worship Team is looking for greeters and lay readers for December, January, and February. If interested, contact Pastor James.

Pastor James is looking for help with Christmas Eve Luminaries. Contact him if you are interested.



**LOTTERY TICKETS    November winner:**

**Pam Puskas**

thank you for your Support

See Karen Smith for next Lottery Tickets



**Corn for Northern Lehigh Food Bank**

We will be collecting 200 cans of corn for the Northern Lehigh Food Bank for Christmas meals and is needed by Sunday December 5<sup>th</sup>.

The Mitten Tree will be located in the Narthex to collect new mittens, hats, and scarves to be given to the homeless.



**Little Shepherd PreSchool**

PreSchool Team is organizing on December 5<sup>th</sup>, after worship. If you are interested in this ministry, let Karen Weaver or Pastor James know and plan to attend the meeting.

**Faith Formation Classes**

Date	Teacher	Crafter
December 5	Judy Bollinger/Ann Behler	Judy and Ann
December 12	Tammy White	Tammy White
December 19	Deb Craig	Deb Craig
December 26	Deb Craig	Amanda Dieter



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