



GOOD SHEPHERD

UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

Pastor James D. Robison, Jr

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

www.GoodShepherdUCCSlatington.org www.facebook.com/GSUCC.Slatington

Good Shepherd Faithfully serving ~ Compassionately accepting ~ Transforming together.

Mountain Reflections December 2022

Merry Christmas one and all ~

The snow has begun to fly, and people are beginning to decorate their homes for the Christmas season. The sanctuary is adorned with candles in the windows, poinsettias placed in the Chancel, and the Christmas tree in the sanctuary is filled with snowflakes and white lights. From that old carol, “there’s a song in the air, there’s a star in the sky, there’s the mother’s sweet prayer, and a baby’s low cry” it certainly is beginning to look a lot like Christmas. Gingerbread decorating and Christmas caroling are on the schedule and young and old alike are preparing once again to celebrate the birth of Christ. But it isn’t the same without family ~ the little children in the wonderment and the adults in their festive moods ~ it is a time of “coming home for Christmas.”

We have certainly been blessed at Good Shepherd and I extend to members new and old to come back home to a place that is an extension of your home. Gather with your brothers and sisters in Christ. Revive your spirit and your diligence in following where the Christ child will lead. Find blessings in the friends and family gathered around the Christmas tree and not simply in the gifts underneath it. Invite others to join in the glory of Christmas during our Christmas Cantata on December 18 and our traditional Christmas Eve services.

I pray however you celebrate this Christmas that you find the spirit of love and generosity growing by leaps and bounds to make your holiday merry and bright.

God bless you all, Pastor James



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

DECEMBER LECTIONARY

December 4, 2022 Advent 2

Lesson: Isaiah 11:1–10

Meditation: Playing Pretend

December 11, 2022 Advent 3

Lesson: Luke 1:47–55

Meditation: Singing a New Song

December 18, 2022 Advent 4

Lesson: Matthew 1:18–25

Meditation: God with Us

December 25, 2022 Christmas Day

Lesson: Psalm 98

Meditation: Christmas Day



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 Church Staff

Pastor	Rev. James D. Robison, Jr.
Faith Formation Director	Amanda Dieter
Preschool Director	Karen Weaver
Organist	TBD
Choir Director	Beth Kutzner
Secretary	Eileen Andrews
Treasurer	Tammy White
Financial Secretary	Colleen Shields
Sexton	Barry Silfies

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 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

Seasonal Missions Available in the narthex for you to choose which program you can/wish to support

- ❖ Northern Lehigh Christmas gift program for the 5 children.
- ❖ Phoebe gift program for their 30 residents.
- ❖ Mitten and Scarf Tree for Shelters

Northern Lehigh Food Bank

We are collecting 200 cans of corn for the Northern Lehigh Food Bank for Christmas meals. The corn for Christmas is needed by Sunday December 4th.



Snow, Ice, Winter Emergency. With the winter months upon us, we need to prepare for wintertime cancellations. Should we have to cancel services or other event, you can receive notices via Church Post by signing up through your email.

You can also visit our website www.GoodShepherdUCCSlatington.org or www.Facebook.com/GSUCCLatington to find out if events have been cancelled or check out TV Channel 69 or Radio Station WAEB 790 am.



Our Thoughts &
Prayers
are with...



Homebound Members

Marge Bass

Dale-Ann Derr

Jean Hewitt

Mary Bilheimer

Dennis Derr

Betty Humanick

Kay Costenbader

Susan 'Tillie' Waller

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

Colby Adams

Rebecca McMichael

Jacqueline Tracy

Anthony Babb

Cory Musser

Nicholas Sander

Elijah Colon

David Neff

Benjamin Schaffer

Dalton Housenick

Spencer Perkins

Clint Schaeffer

Kira (Kern) Kelsey

Christie Peirsel

Michael Kelsey

Janel Tracy

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

Family & Friends

Sherry Bishop

Theresa Jones

Richard Sheffler

Barbara DeLong

Richard Keen

Barry Silfies

Albert Falat

Sandy Keller

John Slanina

Travis Frantz

Jessie Neff

Marilyn Sowden

Adam Griffith

Larry Reinart

Charlotte Hallman

Clint Schaeffer

For The Families Of Those Who Have Entered Eternal Life:

Walter Fox

Hailey Mientus

Fred Ruch

Jodie Zeigenfuss

God is watching over you.....

I know because I asked God to

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 19	Nanette Zink
Dec 6	Stephanie Reimert	Dec 20	Robert Evans
Dec 6	Madison Zangl	Dec 20	Robert Shelly
Dec 8	Dorothy Arnold	Dec 21	Evan Horninger
Dec 8	Carol Oswald	Dec 21	Tim Storm
Dec 9	Marie Bachman	Dec 21	John Zellner
Dec 9	Wesley Loch	Dec 21	Ashley White
Dec 9	Mason Meinhart	Dec 23	Aricka Creyer
Dec 9	Amber Orendach	Dec 23	Omar Safi
Dec 9	Joshua Richardson	Dec 24	Carol Krum
Dec 9	Calista Smoyer	Dec 25	“JESUS”
Dec 9	Shirley Blynn	Dec 25	Larry Lacy Sr.
Dec 10	Dawn Beblavy	Dec 25	Donovan White
Dec 10	Eli Heilman	Dec 26	Michael Bowers
Dec 10	Kevin Heilman	Dec 26	Rae Anne Creyer
Dec 13	Marilyn Smith	Dec 26	Allison Schaffer
Dec 14	Evelyn Haas	Dec 28	Barry Heckman
Dec 15	Travis Hausman	Dec 30	Darrin Carbin
Dec 15	Keith Horn	Dec 30	Marcus Kremposky
Dec 17	Keri Dimmig	Dec 31	Kelly Beblavy
Dec 18	Kennedy DeAngelo	Dec 31	Michael Stafiniak

Anniversaries

Dec 1	Kevin & Jenelle (Frohnheiser) Heilman
Dec 2	Joseph & Pam (Bossons) Puskas, Sr.
Dec 3	Richard & Penny (Bowers) Keen
Dec 3	Allen & Robin (Zancofsky) Lichtenwalner
Dec 10	Mathew & Amber (Miller) Snyder
Dec 21	Glenn & Sherry (Billman) Bishop
Dec 27	Arthur & Lisa (Smith) Kuntz
Dec 30	David & Linda (German) Dries

Financial

G Giving - Good Stewardship Made Easy

<https://get.tithe.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 to 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 Cantata December 18th ~ 10 am “A Promise Kept”



The Chancel Choir has been busy this fall preparing music, not only for regular services, but also for a Christmas cantata to be presented on December 18th, during the 10:00 am service.

The cantata “A Promise Kept”, is a rousing compilation of traditional carols and contemporary Christian music. The choir held a five-hour long rehearsal on November 19th which included lunch and was a lot of fun! We will have one more two-hour rehearsal on Tuesday, December 13th from 6:30-8:30 pm. Feel free to join us! The choir Christmas party will be on January 3rd, from 6:00 -8:30 pm.

The Youth Ensemble has started meeting again after church. The Youth Ensemble meets every 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sunday, from 11:00 (right after church) until 12:00 pm. The Youth Ensemble plays bells, sings, plays games, and sometimes presents music during church services. All children are welcome to attend.

The Youth Ensemble will not meet after church on Christmas Day.

SCRIP Summary November 2022

Participants	11
Cards Ordered	128
Profit	\$285.25
Profit Year-To-Date	\$1,810.05

Scrip is Fundraising
While You Shop!™



**December 11th and Delivery December 18th
Still in time for Christmas**

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.**



Christmas Eve Worship Leaders

Elder:	Dec 24 th 3pm	Susie Blose
Deacon:	Dec 24 th 3pm	Dennis Silfies
Acolytes:	Dec 24 th 3pm	Matthew Bowers
Greeters:	Dec 24 th 3pm	Rich and Penny Keen
Elder:	Dec 24 th 5pm	Tammy White
Deacon:	Dec 24 th 5pm	Amanda Bowers
Acolytes:	Dec 24 th 5pm	Breonna Richardson
Greeters:	Dec 24 th 5pm	Amanda & Fiona Dieter
Elder:	Dec 24 th 11pm	TBD
Deacon:	Dec 24 th 11pm	Jim George
Acolytes:	Dec 24 th 11pm	Cameron Shields
Greeters:	Dec 24 th 11pm	Carol Krum

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 \$35 and/or bulletin \$10, sponsorship must be on the calendar by the prior Sunday.

Linda Coffin is the Altar Guild contact.



“Transforming the lives of families experiencing homelessness. Because every child deserves a home.”

Calling All Family Promise Volunteers

Good Shepherd and Heidelberg UCC are working together for Family Promise to provide shelter for the homeless at Heidelberg UCC church every evening/night from Sunday Nov. 27 through Saturday Dec. 3. Volunteers are needed to provide dinners and/or to remain at H-UCC during the evening and/or overnight. The families will arrive at 6pm...dinner is at 6pm...and they will leave H-UCC at 6:30am the following morning, with the exception of Sunday Dec. 3 when they will leave at 8am. A sign-up genius will be available for volunteers to sign-up as we get closer to Nov. 27. Family Promise Volunteer requirements are the PA Criminal Background Check and Child Abuse Clearance as well as the Family Promise training which can be viewed at

<https://fplehighvalley.org/volunteer>.



For more information regarding clearances please contact Barb Weaver at barweav@ptd.net. or 610-767-5187 before November 13th.

See Pastor James for more information on this important ministry.

LOTTERY TICKETS November winner:

Gary & Jean Fatzinger

Thank you for your Support

See Karen Smith for next Lottery Tickets

for Northern Lehigh Food Bank



We will be collecting 200 cans of corn for the Northern Lehigh Food Bank for Christmas meals. The corn for Christmas is needed by Sunday December 4th.

Youth Fellowship Gingerbread House's

December 4th ~ 11:15

Be sure to look for them showing up in the narthex and vote with your coin for your favorite.



Christmas Caroling with Youth Fellowship
December 11th ~ 12:30

Christmas
CAROLING



Seasonal Missions Available in the narthex for you to choose which program you can/wish to support ❖ Northern Lehigh Christmas gift program for the 7 children. ❖ Phoebe gift program for their 30 residents. ❖ Mitten and Scarf Tree for Shelters ❖ Riverstone Manor- formally Canal Side Walnutport, gift program for the 5 residents.

Looking for:



Website Administrator,
Fellowship Team Leader, Mission
Team Leader and Altar Guild help.
If interested, please contact:
Pastor James or Dennis Silfies

Staying in Touch

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

www.GoodShepherdUCCSlatington.org

And also "Like" us on:

www.facebook.com/GSUCC.Slatington

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

Deacon: Dec 4th Mary Storm

Acolytes: Dec 4th Aiden Solt
 Dec 11th Maddie Sommers
 Dec 18th Maddie Sommers
 Dec 25th Deb Craig

Lay Readers: Dec 4th Mary Storm
 Dec 11th Darlene Nothstein
 Dec 18th Mary Storm

Greeters: Dec 4th Eileen Andrews
 Dec 11th Pam Puskas
 Dec 18th RaeAnne Creyer & Lisa
 Dec 25th Deb Craig

Altar Guild: December Linda Coffin

Power Point Designer: Deb Craig

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

Videographer: Beth Kutzner

Faith Formation Classes

Dec Confirmands - Pastor James

Dec Young Adults - Mary Storm

Youth Teachers

Dec 4th Monica Griffith

Dec 11th Pam Puskas

Dec 18th Susie Blose

Dec 25th No Classes ~ Merry Christmas

