



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 February 2025

Dear Friends and Members of Good Shepherd UCC

Grace and peace to you as we continue our journey through the season of Epiphany, a time when we celebrate the revelation of Christ's light to the world. This sacred season invites us to reflect on how we are called to be bearers of that light, bringing hope, love, and compassion to those around us.

This February, we have meaningful opportunities to let Christ's light shine brightly through mission projects that make a real difference in our community. We are collecting cans of soup for the food bank, helping to nourish our neighbors who may be struggling with food insecurity. We also continue collecting hoodies for VALOR, supporting veterans in need with warmth and comfort during the winter months.

These efforts are more than acts of charity; they are expressions of Christ's love made tangible. Each can of soup, each hoodie, is a reminder that no one is forgotten, and every life is cherished.

I encourage you to participate with open hearts and joyful spirits. Together, we reflect the love and hope of Christ, spreading light into the shadows and transforming lives. Thank you for being a part of this beautiful work of faith.

In Christ's love,

Pastor James

FEBRUARY LECTIONARY

February 2, 2025	4th Sunday after the Epiphany
Lesson:	Luke 4:21-30
Meditation:	Prophet on the Edge
February 9, 2025	5th Sunday after the Epiphany
Lesson:	Luke 5:1-11
Meditation:	Who you are! And where you're at!
February 16, 2025	6th Sunday after the Epiphany
Lesson:	Luke 6:17-26
Meditation:	Surprising Teaching
February 23, 2025	7th Sunday after the Epiphany
Lesson:	Luke 6:27-38
Meditation:	Love Your Enemies

COMMUNION SCHEDULE

Ash Wednesday ~ Wednesday, March 5, 2025 at 7:00 pm

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>

Altar Flowers and Bulletins **Given To 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 in the Narthex by the prior Sunday. Linda Coffin is the Altar Guild contact.

Snow, Ice, Winter Emergency Cancellations

check out TV Channel 69 or Radio Station WAEB 790am, our website and Facebook sites. Email or Texts.



Our Thoughts &
Prayers
are with...



Homebound Members

Marge Bass	Dennis Derr	
Mary Bilheimer	Donna Fox	Carol Schweitzer
Shirley Blynn	Betty Humanick*	
Kay Costenbader	Susan 'Tillie' Waller	

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
Dalton Housenick	Jacob Molchan	Janel Tracy
Kira (Kern) Kelsey	Jacqueline (Tracy) Moyer	

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

Family & Friends

Truman Andrews*	Janet Kitchell	Eva Marie Poliquim
Madeline Balliet	Margaret Kresge	Dennis Raver
Doug Farber	Susan Lukon	Richards Family
Lee Haas	Marion Madenheim	Kylie Schneider
Frank Hart	Barbara Mathias*	Alice Schnell*
Michelle Hewitt	Johnny Miller	Mary Storm
Gary Johannes	Jackie Moffitt	Frank Strohl
Boden Kearney	Dawn Mummey*	Jenn Wentz
Hayden Keller	Dave Norwood	Helen Zolnowsky

First responders and families affected by LA fires

***Denotes hospice care**

Purged at beginning of each month.

Renews are welcomed

For The Families Of Those Who Have Entered Eternal Life:

Scott Betz	Rich Binder Jr.	Rev. Canon Doris Bray
Jim Craig	Jen Dieter	Bruce Jones
Steve Mansueto	Johnny Miller	Gary Redline
Alice Schnell		

New Members classes will be held on the following dates:

February 9, 2025 ~ 11:15 am with members joining February 16, 2025.

June 1, 2025 ~ 11:15 am with members joining June 8, 2025.

September 7, 2025 ~ 11:15 am with members joining September 14, 2025.

To volunteer for weekly snow removal, please sign the sheet in the Narthex.

**Mission Outreach for February is
Soup/Ecumenical Kitchen**

The Conference Kitchen ensures that the working poor, homeless, elderly, children, people between jobs, individuals on fixed incomes, and those who have nowhere else to turn can receive a free nutritious meal, three times a day, five days a week.

Breakfast is served from 8:00 to 9:00 am, lunch from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm and dinner from 4:00 to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday.

We rely on the kindness of our volunteers to help us prepare and serve food. Take your first step and volunteer today by contacting Amarelis Rodriguez at ARodriguez@lehighchurches.org

The Conference Housing program builds a path in which those who are homeless, threatened with homelessness, or re-entering society from jail or prison can find stability in their lives. We offer rental assistance, utility deposits, furniture, and support enabling families and individuals to stay housed.

The Drop-in Center is an accepting place for anyone in need of support, advocacy, and self-empowerment. Lockers, showers, clothing, access to computers, and trained caseworkers are available to all who attend.

The Drop-in Center is open Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Dubbs Memorial Community Center, 457 W Allen St., Allentown, PA 18102

February Birthdays

Feb 2	Chris Kegel	Feb 17	Bryan Horninger
Feb 4	Frances Kuntz	Feb 17	Sharon Miller
Feb 4	Kara Richardson	Feb 18	Caden Shields
Feb 6	Donna Keener	Feb 20	Ben Schaffer
Feb 8	Ashley Nagy	Feb 21	Robin Bellesfield
Feb 8	Angela Rex	Feb 21	Stephanie Mack
Feb 9	Susan Bankes	Feb 22	Laura George
Feb 9	Darlene Nothstein	Feb 22	Patricia Reimert
Feb 10	Nash Geist	Feb 23	Morgan Farber
Feb 10	Cece Pyfer	Feb 24	Barbara Horn
Feb 11	Becky Haas	Feb 24	Evan Kresge
Feb 12	Frank Soldridge III	Feb 24	Kayla Schappell
Feb 13	Michael Pitruzzello	Feb 27	Pam Knappenberger
Feb 14	Janet Kern	Feb 27	Sara Ruch
Feb 16	Kelsey Sander	Feb 27	Todd Solt

February Anniversaries

Feb 7	David & Sonja (Loch) Derkits
Feb 9	Brian & Debra (Polzer) DeLong

Redner's Save-A-Tape bucket in Narthex. The church gets 1% of your receipt if you have a Save-A-Tape card from Redner's. **Profit for 2024 was \$21.85.**

Clothing drop-off box at the rear of the property earns our church money per pound. If you are cleaning out your closets, this is a good fundraiser for the church. **Profit for 2024 was \$575.**

Calendar

Calendar

FAITH FORMATION UPDATE

Youth Faith Formation is **collecting cans of soup & boxes of crackers** for **Soup”er” Bowl Sunday on February 9, 2025**. They will be donated to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank.

Nursery Faith Formation Leaders are looking for youngsters 5 years of age and under to join them in the nursery room Sunday mornings at 9 am. Contact Kelsey Knittle-Moser for more information.

Children’s Faith Formation is continuing to revamp their room and merging with the Youth Ensemble. If interested see Amanda Smith, Chastity Corvino, and/or Beth Kutzner. We will gather in the Fellowship Hall for a time of music on Sundays at 9 am.

Youth Faith Formation welcomes all young people in Grades 5 through 12 to join them in the youth lounge on Sundays at 9 am. Come and check out our new digs!

Prayers for Our College Students:

Dane Badman at LCCC, Megan Bankes at Glenville State WV, Tyla Block at Widener, Aricka Creyer at LCCC, Carissa Fallon at Penn State, Riley Fallon at Penn State, Ben Griffith at Luzerne, Katy Griffith at Cedar Crest, Emma Hope at Kutztown, Sarah Hope at LCCC, Evan Horninger at DeSales, Olivia Horninger at Cedar Crest, Cece Pyfer at LCCC, Jade Rice at DeSales, Brody Ritter at the University of Delaware, Caden Shields at Muhlenberg, Cameron Shields at LCCC, Colleen Shields at Strayer, Caleb Sommers at Kutztown, Calista Smoyer at West Virginia, Gabriella Smoyer at Cedar Crest, Luke Zook at Villanova.

Confirmation Schedule:

Session 4 ~ *Jesus in Half a Day*

Date: Saturday – February 15, 2025, 2025; 9:00am - 3:00pm

Session 5 ~ *Worship*

Date: Sunday – February 2, 2025; 11:15am - 2:00pm

Session 6 ~ *Spirituality*

Date: Sunday – February 16, 2025; 11:15am - 2:00pm

Session 7 ~ *Sacraments*

Date: Sunday – February 23, 2025; 11:15am – Noon 8

LENTEN/EASTER SCHEDULE FOR 2025

MARCH

- 05 - Ash Wednesday (Imposition of Ashes) 7:00 pm
- 12 - Lenten Gathering (with soup and salad) 6:30 pm
- 19 - Lenten Gathering (with soup and salad) 6:30 pm
- 26 - Lenten Gathering (with soup and salad) 6:30 pm

APRIL

- 02 - Lenten Gathering (with soup and salad) 6:30 pm
- 09 - Lenten Gathering (with soup and salad) 6:30 pm
- 12 – Palm Sunday (Procession with Donkey 9:45 am)
- 16 – Color Easter Eggs in Fellowship Hall
- 17 – Maundy Thursday 7:00 pm
- 18 – Good Friday Meditation Noon – 3:00 pm
Good Friday Service at Good Shepherd 7:00 pm
- 19 - Easter Egg Hunt
- 10 – Easter Services 6:00 am/10:00 am

We are looking for volunteers to make soup and salad for approximately 40 people and to purchase bread for the lenten gatherings. Anyone interested, please see Pastor James.

Mission Outreach for February is Soup/Ecumenical Kitchen

The Conference Kitchen ensures that the working poor, homeless, elderly, children, people between jobs, individuals on fixed incomes, and those who have nowhere else to turn can receive a free nutritious meal, three times a day, five days a week.

Breakfast is served from 8:00 to 9:00 am, lunch from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm and dinner from 4:00 to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday.

The Drop-in Center is an accepting place for anyone in need of support, advocacy, and self-empowerment. Lockers, showers, clothing, access to computers, and trained caseworkers are available to all who attend.

The Drop-in Center is open Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Dubbs Memorial Community Center, 457 W. Allen St, Allentown:
Assessment Walk-in Hours: Monday—Thursday: 9:00AM—
3:00PM

UPCOMING EVENTS



The Fundraising Team is selling **Little Caesars pizza kits** beginning February 2 through March 9. This is a great fundraiser for the church. Please pick up an order form in the Narthex and sell to your family, friends, neighbors, and coworkers.

February 2 registration is open for Little Shepherd Preschool for children currently enrolled and church members. Contact Karen Weaver at karenls2@hotmail.com or visit their Facebook page to learn more.

Scout Sunday is Sunday, February 23, 2025. Encourage the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts in your life to attend.

SAVE THE DATE

Open and Affirming Ministry Team Winter Gathering
Saturday, March 1, 2025

THEME – PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR ONE ANOTHER
Lancaster Theological Seminary
555 West James Street
Lancaster, Pennsylvania
9:30 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

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.

There are **extra weekly offering envelopes** in the Narthex on the center podium. If you forgot your envelopes, do not have them or are not a member and want to use these, please feel free to help yourself.

SCRIP Report • January 2025

Participants	-	10
Cards Ordered	-	61
Profit	-	\$171.20

Orders Due **Sunday, February 9** with delivery on **Sunday, February 16**. As a reminder, orders are open to everyone – **Please ask family and friends, neighbors and coworkers.**

Total profit from the Scrip Order Program in 2024 was \$2,177.39.

The Winner of the January Lottery was: Susan Sensinger



See Karen Smith to participate.

Staying in Touch

Office Hours Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
8:00 am – 1:00 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	Dr. Yezi Chen
Choir Director	Beth Kutzner
Secretary	Eileen Andrews
Treasurer	Tammy White
Financial Secretary	Colleen Shields
Sexton	Matthew Shields

February Worship Leaders

Deacon:		Mary Storm
Altar Guild:		Mary Storm
Acolytes:	2	Matthew Bowers
	9	Matthew Bowers
	16	Holden Schaffer
	23	Kendall Frantz
Lay Readers:	2	Sheri Fallon
	9	Monica Griffith
	16	Eric Hantz
	23	Jodie Hourt
Greeters:	2	Alice Kegel
	9	Amanda Smith
	16	Cindy Parks & Kathy Elston
	23	Rae Anne Creyer & Mert

Power Point Designers: Deb Craig, Eric Hantz

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

Facebook Design: Marie Bachman