

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 2023

Hello dear friends and members of Good Shepherd UCC, Slatington ~

This past month, I must admit that I sat back and thought what a wonderful space we are in at Good Shepherd UCC. We are now another year further along in our journey having become a new creation in 2019 and the foundations which were put in place are helping to frame the work and ministry we are about as members and friends of our faith community.

No one ever knows what the outcome of a year may be, but I believe that entering it with hopeful optimism is a step in the right direction we face any issues that may arise with grace and understanding as fellow Christians.

I'm not only excited of where we've been over the past four years, but what is unfolding this year. We have a Task Force led by Mary Storm to help us understand about Open and Affirming as we welcome all God's children including lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, transgender, and questioning. This is something we have always lived into, but this will let others know they are welcome. We have a special speaker for February 12th and hope that you might be able to attend which will include a discussion time following the service.

Our Worship Team is preparing for an exciting spring season with special music and services that include our talented supply organists.

Our Faith Formation and Fellowship Teams are busy planning our Lenten Gatherings for the month of March which will include a performance of *Humanity vs Pontius Pilate*.

Our Mission Team has started planning for the next Family Promise the week of February 26th thru March 5th and to continue our mission initiatives of providing meals the last

Sunday of each month for VALOR and our continue support of Northern Lehigh Food Bank and CACPAC.

There are countless opportunities to participate, just ask one of the coordinators how you might jump right in and get started. This includes from reading scripture on Sunday morning or singing in the choir to volunteering with a mission project or simply attending the Mid-week Lenten Gatherings.

There is room for everyone at the table!

Yours in the Service of Christ,

Pastor James

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

FEBRUARY LECTIONARY

February 5, 2023 5th Sunday after the Epiphany

Lesson: Matthew 5:13–20

Meditation: Greatness of Heart

February 12, 2023 6th Sunday after the Epiphany

Lesson: Matthew 5:21–37

Meditation: From the Heart

February 19, 2023 Transfiguration Sunday

Lesson: Matthew 17:1–9

Meditation: Sacred Encounters

February 26, 2023 Lent 1

Lesson: Matthew 4:1–11

Meditation: Into the Wilderness



COMMUNION SCHEDULE

Ash Wednesday

Communion and imposition of Ashes

Wednesday, February 22 7:00 pm

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	Matthew Shields

Missions Outreach For February is Soup / Ecumenical Kitchen Nourishing

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. Over 35 years of feeding the hungry, serving more than 35,000 meals a year and provides access to medical care for those in need.

St. Paul’s Lutheran Church,
8th and Walnut Streets, Allentown, PA 18101
Noon to 1 pm, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays

The LCC’s kitchen operates three days a week. Medical care is made available on a weekly basis by the LVHN Street Medicine Team and Sacred Heart Parish Nurses, who offer free screenings, referrals for follow up care, and assistance with health insurance enrollment.

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

Jane Achey

Jim Joyce

Alice Schnell

Dave Bauer

Sandy Keller

Nancy Schumaker

Laura Castellani

Shawn Kress

Barry Silfies

Michael Dieffenderfer

Kevin Kroboth

Dee Dee Sloane

Elsie Dreher

Wayne Kuhns

Craig Solt

Lisa Gilly

David Macaley

Sallie Solt

Jane Haldeman

Tina Minnich

Rich Taylor

Dan Hamm

Connie Renner

Susan "Tillie" Waller

Holley Henderson

Sean Roth

For The Families Of Those Who Have Entered Eternal Life:

Donald Felguieras

Doug Gaumer

James Knittle

Robert Long

Gregory Mertz

God is watching over you...

I know because I asked God to

February Birthdays

Feb 1	Allen Lichtenwalner	Feb 17	Sharon Miller
Feb 2	Chris Kegel	Feb 18	Caden Shields
Feb 4	Peter Blynn	Feb 20	Ben Schaffer
Feb 4	Frances Kuntz	Feb 20	Mackenzie Thomas
Feb 4	Kara Richardson	Feb 21	Robin Bellesfield
Feb 6	Timothy Gad	Feb 21	Stephanie Mack
Feb 8	Ashley Nagy	Feb 22	Laura George
Feb 8	Angela Rex	Feb 22	Patricia Reimert
Feb 9	Susan Bankes	Feb 22	Fae Wentz
Feb 9	Darlene Nothstein	Feb 23	Morgan Farber
Feb 10	Roy Kleintop	Feb 23	Jeffrey Hewitt, Jr.
Feb 10	Cece Pyfer	Feb 24	Barbara Horn
Feb 11	Becky Haas	Feb 24	Evan Kresge
Feb 12	Matthew Patrick	Feb 24	Kayla Schappell
Feb 13	Rodney Kuntz	Feb 26	Jennifer Phillips
Feb 13	Michael Pitruzzello	Feb 26	Kennedy Walters
Feb 14	Janet Kern	Feb 27	Pam Knappenberger
Feb 17	Bryan Horninger	Feb 27	Todd Solt

Anniversaries

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

Congratulations!

Eric Hantz became a grandfather again:
Grandson named Maverick Levy Hantz
Born to Evan and Sandy Hantz on January 5th



February 26th is Scout Sunday

Special recognition to our
Girl Scout and Boy Scouts both past



and present along with Leaders in the Scouting programs.
The Girls Scouts, that hold their meetings here at Good Shepherd.

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.

Baptism for Hailey Grace Ruch

January 22nd

Born: January 30, 2021

She is the daughter of Jonathan & Sara (Sanders) Ruch. Hailey’s grandparents are Gregory & Lisa (Ter Horst) Sanders, Ruth (German) Ruch and the late Frederick Ruch, Jr. Her great grandmother is Georgia (Glunt) Sanders.

Baptism for Esmae Charlotte Rose Bartczak

January 29th

Born: October 15, 2021

She is the daughter of Joseph Daniel Bartczak & Carlee Anne Hunsicker. Esmae’s Maternal Grandmother is Judy (Jones) Hunsicker. Her Paternal Grandparents are Daniel Bartczak & Marisol Roman, and along with her Maternal Great Grandmother, Tina Conway; and Maternal Great-Great Grandmother, Loretta (Conway) Betz.

Soup and Chili Sale



Chili = pint \$6 quart \$10

Potato Soup = pint \$4 quart \$7

Chicken Pot Pie soup = pint \$4 quart \$7

Saturday February 11th 12 noon to 2 pm

Sunday February 12th after church to 1 pm

SCRIP Report • January 2023

Scrip is Fundraising
While You Shop!™



Participants	–	7
Cards Ordered	–	34
Profit	–	\$98.78
Profit Year-To-Date	–	\$98.78
Profit Program-To-Date	–	\$42,814.58

Sunday, February 12th and delivered on **Sunday, February 19th.**

Faith Formation Classes

Confirmands - Pastor James & Young Adults - Mary Storm

Nursery Teacher - Brandi Palmer

Children Teachers -

Feb 5th Monica Griffith Feb 19th Monica Griffith

Feb 12th Pam Puskas Feb 26th Deb Craig



Congratulations to: Clarence Smith
The Winner of the January Lottery.
See Karen Smith to participate.

GONE FISHIN

Saturday, March 4, 2023

- Snow Date Saturday March 11, 2023 -

- Doors Open at 4:00 p.m. -
(Meal Served 5:00 p.m.)

GOOD SHEPHERD U.C.C.

3940 Mountain Road, Slatington, PA.

Cost: \$10.00

Includes: 15 Prize Raffle Ticket,
Meal & Refreshments
(Only 250 Tickets Printed)

- Winners Need not be present -



Special Table Drawings Throughout Event



**Door Prizes &
50/50 Drawing**

License #: 0165R22



For Advanced Tickets Call:
Joe Conway @ 484-896-8115 or Ed Smith @ 610-767-3776

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.



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>

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.**



Little Caesars Pizza Sale

Delivery will be the week of February 6th in time for Super Bowl time!

Watch for Pick up date and times

February 12th, 2023, is "Soup'er" Bowl Sunday



The youth of Good Shepherd are sponsoring the "Soup'er Bowl Sunday" canned soup drive. If you would like to donate cans of Soup or boxes of crackers, you can drop them off in the narthex all month.



The soup and crackers will be given to the

Northern Lehigh Food Bank to help those who are in need



Good Shepherd & Heidelberg UCC will be hosting Family Promise the week of Feb. 26-March 5. We need volunteers to

greet the arriving families at 6pm & stay until 8:30pm; to cook a meal; to stay overnight (8:30pm-6am); and/or to assist with set-up & clean-up on Feb. 26 & March 5. If you are interested in helping with this mission project, please see Ann Hayes or email at ahayes2395@gmail.com

Good Shepherd Lenten Gatherings
will begin

Each Wednesday,

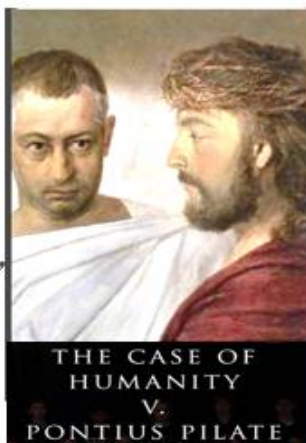
March 1st at 6:30 pm thru March 29th

In the Fellowship Hall with a vegetarian soup and salad dinner.

Followed by a play, in a modern-day setting,
"The Case of Humanity vs Pontius Pilate"

Pontius Pilate stands trial for ordering the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ.

The verdict will be left in the hands of the audience / jury.



Wednesday's Lenten Meals:

	Soup & Salad	Hosts
March 1 st	Vegetable Barley	Dennis Silfies
March 8 th	Potato	Deb Craig
March 15 th	TBD	Drew Fatzinger
March 22 nd	Wild Rice & Mushroom	Dennis Silfies
March 29 th	Vegetable Bean	Scott Pellington



Sunday, March 26th~ Our goal is to receive 200 cans of corn for Easter meals for the Northern Lehigh food bank. They can be brought in at any time to the front of the church.

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

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP LEADERS

**Ash Wednesday 22nd
7:00 pm**

Elder: Susie Blose

Head Deacon: Amanda Bowers

Acolyte: Maddie Sommers

Greeter: TBD

FEBRUARY WORSHIP LEADERS

Deacon: February

Amanda Bowers

Acolytes: 5th

Matthew Bowers

12th

Maddie Sommers

19th

Maddie Sommers

26th

Maddie Sommers

Lay Readers: 5th

Eric Hantz

12th

Mary Storm

19th

Pam Puskas

26th

Marie Bachman

Greeters: 5th

Matthew Bowers & Penny Keen

12th

Janice Silliman & Tracy Gursky

19th

Matthew Bowers & Penny Keen

26th

Tammy Schaeffer

Altar Guild: February

Mary Storm

Power Point Designer: Deb Craig

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

Videographer: Beth Kutzner