



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 July 2024

Dear Family and Friends of Good Shepherd ~

It is with great joy and anticipation that I announce to you the potential union of the four Pennsylvania conferences, forging a new entity, the Keystone Conference. This historic merger symbolizes not only a structural change but also a profound testament to the unity and strength that arise when we join hands in ministry.

Just as a keystone bears the weight of an arch, uniting and supporting the structure, so too does our collaboration strengthen and fortify our collective mission. By pooling our resources, talents, and wisdom, we will amplify our capacity to serve, inspire, and transform lives in our communities and beyond.

Together, as the Keystone Conference, we will be empowered to tackle challenges with greater resilience, innovate with boldness, and extend our reach with compassion. Our shared vision for ministry will become more vibrant, inclusive, and impactful as we draw upon the rich diversity of our congregations and traditions.

As we make this monumental decision in November, let us honor the legacy of our past while embracing the promise of our future, united in our commitment to proclaiming the love and grace of God.

May we pray that the spirit of fellowship and our shared purpose build upon the foundation of our faith, knowing that together, we are indeed stronger.

Blessings and peace,
Pastor James

JULY LECTINARY

July 7, 2024	7th Sunday after Pentecost
Lesson:	Mark 6:1-13
Meditation:	Sent with Power
July 14, 2024	8th Sunday after Pentecost
Lesson:	2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19
Meditation:	God-Inspired Joy
July 21, 2024	9th Sunday after Pentecost
Lesson:	2 Samuel 7:1-14a
Meditation:	Wherever You Are
July 28, 2024	10th Sunday after Pentecost
Lesson:	John 6:1-21
Meditation:	God's Abundant Presence

COMMUNION SCHEDULE

God & Country Communion ~ Sunday, July 7, 2024

Virtual Worship Services thru Facebook Live-Streaming allows us to continue our services for those unable to attend in person.

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**.

There will be no Vacation Bible School this year.

Barnstormers Concert will be on **Saturday, July 13** in the sanctuary at **7:30 pm**. **Admission is free but a free will offering will be taken. Come and enjoy a wonderful evening of music.** Check them out at <https://www.barnstormerschorus.com>

**Mission Outreach for July is
Lancaster Theological Seminary**

They are a vibrant and inclusive graduate school of theology committed to the integration of intellectual, spiritual, social and vocational learning. A seminary of the United Church of Christ, they are an ecumenical seminary that serves students from diverse Christian traditions. The campus is located in historic Lancaster, PA and is known for academic excellence, and creative engagement on issues of importance to our world.

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Pastor James is looking for individuals in junior and/or senior high school that would like to explore possible service and mission opportunities. Pastor James will meet with the youth on the following Sundays in 2024: **August 11, October 6, December 1.** Youth Fellowship is **collecting new bed sheets** for those in need at Sixth Street Shelter over the summer through the end of August.

If you've ever felt like you just can't get in control of your money, you're not alone. You'd be surprised how many people you know are struggling just like you. But it's time for your struggle to end—starting today. Join Monica Griffith's ***Financial Peace University*** class starting on **Wednesday, June 12, 2024** and learn how you can pay off debt, save more money, and build wealth. Visit **<https://www.fpu.com/DFA076>** to sign up!

Classes are Wednesday's 6:30-8 pm. Dates are **June 12,19,26, July 3,10,17,31, August 7, 14.** If you have a FPU membership, **you can catch up on missed lessons** independently, and join other classes that are virtual to catch up as well.

Anyone interested in attending individual Confirmation Classes, please see Pastor James. The summer sessions are as follows:

Introduction: Sunday, July 14, 2024: 11:15 am to Noon

Church History: Wednesday, July 17, 2024: 9 am to 3 pm

Scriptures: Sunday, July 21, 2024: 11:15 am to 2 pm

Jesus in Half a Day: Saturday, August 10, 2024: 9 am to 3 pm.

Theology: Sunday, August 11, 2024: 11:15 am to 2 pm.

Sacraments: Wednesday, August 14, 2024: 10:00 am to Noon



Our **Thoughts** &
Prayers are with...



Homebound Members

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

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

Colby Adams	Michael Kelsey	Spencer Perkins
Anthony Babb	Marcus Loch	Nicholas Sander
Sean Bolza	Rebecca McMichael	Benjamin Schaffer
Dalton Housenick	Jacob Molchan	Janel Tracy
Kira (Kern) Kelsey	Adam Moyer	
	Jacqueline (Tracy) Moyer	

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

Family & Friends

Jane Achey	Boden Kearney	Kylie Schneider
Connie Beblavy	Shawn Kress	Sandy Serfass
Gail Bell	Kevin Kroboth	Tiffany Silfies
Jim Craig	Richard Kuntz	John Slanina
Louise Croll	Barbara Mathias	Mary Storm
Ann Goff	Chris Newhard	Frank Strohl
Keith Gross	Chris Oertner	Rich Taylor
Lee Haas	Connie Renner	Helen Zolnowsky
Frank Hart	Kim Rex	
Faith Mondrick Lauer	Kayla Schappell	

For The Families Of Those Who Have Entered Eternal Life:

Dale Lakatosh, Sr.	Richard Kuntz	Mary Polakovics
	Matthew Stepp	

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.

Financial **Giving - Good Stewardship Made Easy**

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

Texting the word “give” to **610.615.7657**

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, text the word “give” to 610.615.7657 and follow the prompts on your mobile phone Thank you for prayerfully considering what you can afford.

SCRIP Report • June 2024

Participants	-	6
Cards Ordered	-	43
Profit	-	\$114.60
Profit Year-To-Date	-	\$736.23

Orders Due **Sunday, July 14**; delivery on **Sunday, July 21**.

Don't forget to order gas cards for vacation and grocery cards for cookout picnics.

Please have all articles for the August newsletter into the office by Monday, July 15. Thank you.

Pastor James will be on **vacation** from **July 27 through August 7**. For any Pastoral emergencies please contact Dennis Silfies at 484-707-2704 or email him at dennis102250@gmail.com.

Calendar

Calendar

July Birthdays

July 1	Connie Fogle	July 11	Madison Sommers
July 1	Isabella Palmer	July 13	Joseph Bartzak
July 1	Jennifer Sommers	July 15	Rowan Sander
July 1	Shane White	July 17	Tyla Block
July 2	Kellan Heffernan	July 17	Bob Koons
July 3	Ellen Biegly	July 18	Beth Kutzner
July 4	Mason Bowers	July 19	David Nothstein
July 4	Evelyn Flexer	July 20	Braxton Rice
July 4	Frank Gellis	July 20	William "Biff" Hayes
July 4	Judy Mack	July 21	Ariana Smoyer
July 4	Diane Reitz	July 22	Cynthia Schramel
July 7	Michael Bankes	July 23	Pete Beblavy
July 7	Graham Hantz	July 23	Chase Kremposky
July 7	Trevor Rex	July 23	Jade Kremposky
July 8	Jessica Redline	July 23	Michael Kremposky
July 8	Raelyn Rinker	July 23	Kenny Reimert
July 8	Julie Solt	July 24	Savannah Knittle
July 9	Brandi Palmer	July 24	Jazmin Richardson
July 9	Janice Silliman	July 29	Matthew Shields, Jr.
July 9	Tammy White	July 30	Ellen Perkins
July 10	Dane Badman	July 30	Joe Puskas
July 10	Yezi Chen	July 30	Mason Rex
July 10	Thomas Hourt	July 31	Terry Derhammer
July 11	Chastity Corvino		

The Winner of the June Lottery is: Frank Soldridge



See Karen Smith to participate.

July Anniversaries

July 2	Wally & Jackie (Minnich) Amey
July 7	Michael Smith & Mark Miller
July 7	Greg & Katie (White) Koneschusky
July 10	Richard & Linda (Snyder) Schock
July 14	Peter & Shirley (Nothstein) Blynn
July 15	Bruce & Faye (German) Zellner
July 17	Randy & Cindy (Passaro) Parks
July 19	“Duke” & Alice (Musselman) Christman
July 20	Mark & Jennifer (Stafiniak) Sander
July 20	Jim & Barbara (Rice) Sensinger
July 21	Josh & Kara (Solt) Richardson
July 23	Darryl & Annette (Bellanger) Fatzinger
July 24	Travis & Jessica (Miller) Redline
July 27	Travis & Elizabeth (Shoemaker) Frantz
July 27	William “Biff” & Ann (Leiphart) Hayes
July 28	Kerry & Sally (Sensinger) Loch

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FAITH FORMATION

Classes: 9:00am

Teachers – Combined Classes for the Summer

July 7	Pam Puskas
July 14	Monica Griffith
July 21	Mary Storm
July 28	Beth Kutzner

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Lehigh Valley Pride will be Sunday August 18th from 2pm-7pm. A booth sponsored by PNEC will represent all the Open & Affirming congregations in the conference. If you would like to volunteer to be at the booth to greet people and hand out fun giveaways, you can sign up to share God's boundless love at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409044DAAAA29A3F94-49585463-2024/135895903#/>

The Chancel Choir & Media Team finished a wonderful, musical worship year with a picnic on June 18. There were several rousing games of ladder ball followed by a trivia contest and a TV theme song challenge. We also had a delicious buffet of homemade yummys! Everyone left with full tummies & happy hearts! Please be sure to join us for worship this summer to see the wonderful talent that will be presented for special music:

July 7-Lydia DeLong, Vocal Soloist

July 14-Barnstormers Chorus

July 21-Patti Dietzel, Violin Soloist

July 28-Dennis Silfies, Vocal Soloist

August 4-David Matsinko, Folk Music

August 11-Eric Hantz, Vocal Soloist

August 18-Beth Kutzner, Vocal Soloist

August 25-Pam Puskas, Vocal Soloist

FUNDRAISING

<u>Event</u>	<u>Profit for 2024</u>
Sportsman Night Raffle	\$5,750.07
Soup Sale	\$353.00
Hoagie Sale	\$291.00
Clear toy lollipops & pieces	\$74.25
Redner's Save-A-Tape	\$21.85
Floyd's Used Clothing	\$280.00
Fisherman's Raffle	\$1,976.01
Little Caesars Pizza Sale	\$1,045.00
Cash & Gift Card Bingo	\$355.25

Grill In' Raffle Profit

\$2,412.84

Thank you to all who supported this fundraiser!

GRILL'IN RAFFLE WINNERS LIST

June 23, 2024

<u>Prize #</u>	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Seller</u>
Grand Prize, Blackstone Grill	John Zellner	John Zellner
2. Giant \$25	Claire Danko	Eileen Andrews
3. Wegman's \$25	Eric Hantz	Eric Hantz
4. Country Harvest \$25	Frank Soldridge	Frank Soldridge
5. Thomson's Meat \$25	Mary Storm	Mary Storm
6. Todd's Island Seafood \$25	David Bowman	Shirley Phillips
7. Martin Meats \$25	Pastor James	Karen Smith
8. Country Harvest \$50	Barry Green	Eileen Andrews
9. Thomson's Meat \$50	Bob Hantz	Bryan Horninger
10. Todd's Island Seafood \$50	Robert Shelly	Robert Shelly
11. Martin Meats \$50	John Zellner.	John Zellner
12. Country Harvest \$25	Charlene Shupp	Barry Silfies
13. Thomson's Meat \$25	Courtney C.	Terry Derhammer
14. Todd's Island Seafood \$25	Jodie Hourt	Jodie Hourt
15. Martin Meats \$25	Amber Shook	Terry Derhammer
16. Country Harvest \$25	Frank Soldridge	Frank Soldridge
17. Thomson's Meat \$25	Doug Brown	Bryan Horninger
18. Todd's Island Seafood \$25	John Zellner	John Zellner
19. Martin Meats \$25	Beblavy	Chris Kegel
20. Country Harvest \$25	David DeLong	David DeLong
21. Thomson's Meat \$25	Tilly Waller	Deb Craig
22. Todd's Island Seafood \$25	Mitchell Hourt	Mitchell Hourt
23. Martin Meats \$25	Pam Puskas	Pam Puskas
24. Country Harvest \$25	Deb Andrews	Eileen Andrews
25. Thomson's Meat \$25	Pastor James	Pastor James
26. Todd's Island Seafood \$25	Denis Koons	Denise Koons
27. Martin Meats \$25	Faye Klemow	Jim George

Staying in Touch

Summer Office Hours Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

8:00 am – 1:00 pm

(Thursday, July 4-8:00 am – 11:00 am)

Office will be closed the week of July 21.

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

July Worship Leaders

Deacon:	Mary Storm
Elder:	Pam Puskas
Altar Guild:	Julie Solt
Lay Readers:	7 Pam Puskas
	14 Sheri Fallon
	21 Rae Anne Creyer
	28 Darlene Nothstein
Greeters:	7 Alice Kegel
	14 Joe & Sharon Conway
	21 Ed & Karen Smith
	28 Joe & Sharon Conway

Power Point Designers: Deb Craig, Eric Hantz

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

Videographer: Beth Kutzner