



## 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 July 2025

Dear Friends and Members of Good Shepherd UCC ~

In the name of our still-speaking God, we anticipate the pending General Synod of the United Church of Christ, give thanks for the Spirit's movement among us ~ calling us ever deeper into unity and bold love.

In that spirit, we celebrate a significant milestone: the merging of the four Pennsylvania conferences into the *Keystone Conference*. By coming together, we strengthen our shared mission, amplify our collective voice for justice, and deepen our commitment to care for all God's people and creation. We honor the histories of Penn Central, Penn Northeast, Pennsylvania Southeast, and Penn West Conferences while embracing a new chapter with open hearts.

As part of this transition, what had been the Penn Northeast Conference now becomes an association within the Keystone Conference. Though its form has changed, its faith, history, and voice remain vital to the whole. We honor the unique contributions of each former conference, as we embrace this new, Spirit-led future. This new conference, a sign of our evolving ministry, reflects a commitment to sharing resources, strengthening relationships, and responding to God's call with boldness and compassion.

May we be a conference where all are welcome, all are heard, and all are valued, a place of radical welcome.

In the hope of renewed ministry, I remain,

Pastor James,

an authorized minister of Keystone Conference of the UCC

## **JULY LECTONARY**

**July 6, 2025**

**4th Sunday after Pentecost**

Scripture:

2 Kings 5:1-14

Meditation:

Surprising Prophets

**July 13, 2025**

**5th Sunday after Pentecost**

Scripture:

Luke 10:25-37

Meditation:

Caring Neighbors

**July 20, 2025**

**6th Sunday after Pentecost**

Scripture:

Luke 10:38-42

Meditation:

Word and Work

**July 27, 2025**

**7th Sunday after Pentecost**

Scripture:

Luke 11:1-13

Meditation:

Shaped by Prayer

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## **COMMUNION SCHEDULE**

God and Country Communion ~ July 6, 2025 at 10:00 am

**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>

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**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.**



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



**Homebound Members**

Marge Bass	Kay Costenbader	Judy Mack
Mary Bilheimer	Dennis Derr	Carol Schweitzer
Shirley Blynn	Donna Fox	“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
Kira (Kern) Kelsey	Jacob Molchan	Janel Tracy
	Jacqueline (Tracy) Moyer	

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

**Family & Friends**

Randy Andrews	Tracey Haydt	Vivian Neff
Dorothy Bishop	Erik Henritz	Chris Oertner
Sherry Bishop	Mitchell Hourt	Dennis Raver
Taylor Bonser	Barbara Hower	Rich Remaley
Barbara Cannon	Chris Ivan	Gary Schneck
Chastity Corvino	Gary Johannes	Dillon Sherman
Deb Craig	Rich Keen	Evan Shoemaker
Randy Dailey	Hayden Keller	Frank Soldridge
Doug Farber	Rick Keller*	Frank Strohl
Jean Fatzinger	Sandy Keller	Jenn Wentz
Lee Haas	Karen Kolek	John Zellner
Frank Hart	Susan Lukon	Helen Zolnowsky

**\*Denotes hospice care**

*Purged at beginning of each month, Renewals are welcomed*

**The Sacrament of Holy Baptism was celebrated for Harlow Warren Rodrigues on June 22, 2025 at Good Shepherd UCC.**

Harlow, born June 18, 2024, is the son of Jasmine & Megann (Gracely) Rodrigues. His great grandmother is Dorothy (Geiger) Arnold, a member of Good Shepherd UCC. Welcome Harlow!!!

We have welcomed the following **New Members** on June 8, 2025: **Dean Harper, Nancy (Rau) Leitgeb, Ben & Allison (Conway) Schaffer, Evan & Samantha (Troxell) Shoemaker.** The Good Shepherd family welcomes you!

**Confirmation** was celebrated on June 8, 2025 with the following youth completing the process: **Matthew Bowers, Weslie Frano, Kendall Frantz, Holden Schaffer and Parker Schaffer.** Congratulations on continuing your faith journey!

### **July Anniversaries**

July 2	Wally & Jackie (Minnich) Amey
July 7	Greg & Katie (White) Koneschusky
July 7	Michael Smith & Mark Miller
July 10	Richard & Linda (Snyder) Schock
July 15	Bruce & Faye (German) Zellner
July 17	Randy & Cindy (Passaro) Parks
July 19	“Duke” & Alice (Musselman) Christman
July 21	Josh & Kara (Solt) Richardson
July 23	Darryl & Annette (Bellangee) Fatzinger
July 24	Travis & Jessica (Miller) Redline
July 27	Travis & Elizabeth (Shoemaker) Frantz
July 27	William “Biff” & Ann (Leiphart) Hayes
July 27	Roy Kleintop & Tillie: Waller
July 28	Kerry & Sally (Sensinger) Loch

### **July Birthdays**

July 1	Connie Fogle	July 13	Joseph Bartczak
July 1	Isabella Palmer	July 15	Rowan Sander
July 1	Jennifer Sommers	July 17	Tyla Block
July 1	Shane White	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	Judy Mack	July 20	William “Biff” Hayes
July 4	Diane Reitz	July 21	Ariana Smoyer
July 7	Michael Bankes	July 22	Jameson Schappell
July 7	Lisa Gilly	July 22	Cynthia Schramel
July 7	Graham Hantz	July 23	Peter Beblavy
July 7	Trevor Rex	July 23	Chase Kremposky
July 8	Jessica Redline	July 23	Jade Kremposky
July 8	Raelyn Rinker	July 23	Michael Kremposky
July 8	Julie Solt	July 24	Jazmin Richardson
July 9	Brandi Palmer	July 25	Delaney Dugan
July 9	Janice Silliman	July 29	William Ruch
July 9	Tammy White	July 29	Matthew Shields, Jr.
July 10	Dane Badman	July 30	Ellen Perkins
July 10	Yezi Chen	July 30	Joe Puskas
July 10	Thomas Hourt	July 31	Terry Derhammer
July 11	Chastity Corvino	July 31	Mason Rex
July 11	Madison Sommers		

**Looking for a pink & blue antique baby cradle that was left in Fellowship Hall and has gone missing. Please contact the office if you have any information. Pictures of it are on the Narthex Bulletin Board.**

**We are collecting canned spaghetti with pull top tabs for Backpack Buddies through August 31.**

# Calendar

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This summer, the **Breakfast Bunch** at **St. John's Lutheran Church**, Slatington will again **provide breakfast** and a **bag lunch Monday through Friday** from **8:30 – 10:00 AM**. The program will run until **August 22**. All children in the community, **ages 2-17**, are welcome to attend. They are looking for 6 volunteers for each day (whatever your schedule allows) to make sandwiches, pour milk or cereal into a bowl, scramble eggs, toast bread, flip pancakes, go grocery shopping or pick up donations. To volunteer, please call the office at St. John's Lutheran Church at 610-767-6361 or email the church at [stjohnslatington@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnslatington@gmail.com).

**Monetary donations or gift cards to local grocery stores are always appreciated** and can be delivered to the church. Checks can be made payable to St. John's Lutheran Church with "Breakfast Bunch" written on the memo line. **They are also looking for donations of new or gently-used children's books and school supplies.**

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### **Altar Flowers and Bulletins**

**Thank you to our sponsors for June flowers:**

June 8 in honor of Madeline Balliet's birthday

June 15 in honor of Madeline Balliet's birthday by "Tillie"

June 22 in honor of confirmands & new members by Pastor James

**Thank you to our June bulletin sponsors:**

June 15 in honor of Amanda Dieter's birthday

To sponsor flowers (\$35) or bulletins (\$10), please place your name, and the person(s) to be honored or remembered, on the calendar in the narthex and place your contribution in the envelope.

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October 15, 2025 marks the 300th Anniversary of the German Reformed Church in the United States which began with the first communion at Falkner Swamp. Here is the link to learn more: <https://psec.org/300th-anniversary-of-the-german-reformed-church-in-the-us/>





## **FAITH FORMATION UPDATE**

### **2025 Summer Schedule**

All Faith Formation Groups from Nursery through College and any member or friend of Good Shepherd are invited to the following Faith Formation Team Events:

**VBS Road Trip on the Go with God** at Heidelberg from July 14-18 from 5:45-8pm, **Saturday, July 19**, there will be a **Road Rally** (Scavenger Hunt where you drive according to the clues) starting at Heidelberg at 10 am, ending around noon. Please bring money for lunch. **VBS Closing Program at Heidelberg on July 20 at 10am. Set-up/decorating** will be on **Sunday July 13th after worship at Heidelberg**. If anyone is available to help, it would be greatly appreciated. See Amanda Smith for more information or to volunteer.

**Mini Golf at Bear Rock Junction** on August 3 at noon

**Puppet Show in Fellowship Hall** on August 31 at 11am

**Movie Night in Fellowship Hall** on September 7 at 5pm

**Family Fun Day during Outdoor Worship and Church Picnic** on September 14

**For details, contact a Faith Formation Leader:**

Nursery ~ Kelsey Knittle-Moser or Mary Storm

Children's ~ Amanda Smith, Chastity Corvino, or Beth Kutzner

Youth ~ Monica Griffith, Eric Hantz, or RaeAnne Creyer

College ~ Marie Bachman or Pastor James

Staff ~ Deb Craig or Pam Puskas

**Note: Faith Formation Group meetings that normally meet on Sunday mornings at 9am will be suspended through the summer beginning on June 22 through September 21.**

### **Prayers for Our Graduates:**

Megan Bankes from Glenville State University, Carissa Fallon from Penn State University, Emma Hope from Kutztown University, Evan Horninger from DeSales University, Landon Moll from Northern Lehigh High School, Calista Smoyer from West Virginia Grad School.

The Winner of the May Lottery was: Shirley Smith.  
The Winner of the June Lottery was: Trevor Frohnheiser.



See Karen Smith to participate.

**Financial Peace University, Wednesday's 6:30-8 pm** taught by Monica Griffith again this summer. Dates are June 11,18,25, July 2,9,23,30, August 6, 13. **No class on Wednesday, July 16.** See Monica Griffith for more information. **It's not too late to register.**

In-Person Class Registration:

<https://www.financialpeace.com/app/classes/031621>

Virtual Class Registration:

<https://www.financialpeace.com/app/classes/722606>

**PNEC Fall Meeting and Final PNEC Meeting will be November 1, 2025 at St. John's UCC, Nazareth.**

### **SCRIP Report • June 2025**

Participants	- 8
Cards Ordered	- 37
Profit	- \$102.35

Orders Due **Sunday, July 13** with delivery on **Sunday, July 20**.  
Order scrip cards for gas for lawn mowing and for vacation travel!  
As a reminder, orders are open to everyone –  
**Please ask family and friends, neighbors and coworkers.**

**Looking for office volunteers over the summer** who have organizational skills and enjoy history. Also looking for someone who would be able and willing to scan a large number of photos and put them on a flash drive as a way to preserve our congregation's history. Please contact Pastor James or Eileen Andrews if you would like to help.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**



**Sunday, July 27, 2025 at Good Shepherd UCC  
11 AM in the narthex after Morning Worship**

**Grand Prize: Black Stone 36" 4 Burner Griddle w/ accessories  
26 Gift cards will also be raffled off.**

**See Karen Smith or Bonnie Hewitt for tickets - \$5.00 per ticket**

**To volunteer for weekly mowing please sign up in the Narthex.**

**Mission Outreach for July is  
Lancaster Theological Seminary  
[www.lancasterseminary.edu](http://www.lancasterseminary.edu)**

They are an ecumenical seminary that is known for academic excellence, celebration of differences across Christian traditions, and creative engagement on issues of importance to our world.

### **Special Music for July Worship Services**

**July 6-Pam Puskas, soloist**

**July 13-Fiona Dieter, soloist**

**July 20-Lydia Weller, soloist**

**July 27-Patti Dietzel, violin soloist**

## Staying in Touch

Office Hours Tuesday, Wednesday, 8:00 am – 1:00 pm

Thursday 8:00 am – Noon

Office will be closed July 11 – July 22

**Church Office:** 610-767-9680 Ext. 2

**Email:** [secretary@goodshepherduccslatington.org](mailto:secretary@goodshepherduccslatington.org)

**Pastor James' Mobile Phone:** 484-571-6083

**Email:** [jamdarrob@gmail.com](mailto: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

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### July Worship Leaders

Deacon:	Mary Storm
Elder:	Dennis Silfies
Altar Guild:	July Solt
Acolytes:	6 Kendall Frantz [God & Country Communion]
	13 Holden Schaffer
	20 Kendall Frantz
	27 Holden Schaffer
Lay Readers:	6 Carey Block [God & Country Communion]
	13 Dennis Silfies
	20 Riley Fallon
	27 Rae Anne Creyer
Greeters:	6 Alice Kegel [God & Country Communion]
	13 Rich & Penny Keen
	20 Gail & Tina Fetchko
	27 Madeline Balliet & Donna Keener