



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 March 2024

Dear family and friends of Good Shepherd ~

As we enter the month of March, I am filled with joy to share the warmth of our faith and the boundless love that unites our community. We continue our sacred journey towards Easter, a time of reflection, growth, and spiritual awakening.

To "keep the faith and share the love" encapsulates the essence of our Christian walk, reminding us that our faith is not merely a personal endeavor but a shared commitment to uplift and support one another.

To keep the faith means to anchor ourselves in prayer, scripture, and the teachings of Christ. It is a call to deepen our connection with God and find solace in God's unwavering love.

Simultaneously, sharing the love compels us to extend compassion, kindness, and understanding to those around us. Our acts of love become beams of light illuminating the path for others, leading them to the embrace of divine grace.

Let us keep the faith steadfastly and share the love abundantly, radiating the transformative power of Christ's resurrection.

As we prepare for the resurrection of our Lord, let our actions be a testament to the unwavering faith that defines us.

Blessings and love,
Pastor James

MARCH LECTIONARY

March 3, 2024

3rd Sunday in Lent

Lesson:

Psalms 19

Meditation:

Beautiful Law

March 10, 2024

4th Sunday in Lent

Lesson:

Psalms 107:1-3, 17-22

Meditation:

No Matter What

March 17, 2024

5th Sunday in Lent

Lesson:

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Meditation:

Deep In Our Hearts

March 24, 2024

6th Sunday in Lent/Palm Sunday

Lesson:

Mark 11:1-11

Meditation:

Into Jerusalem

March 31, 2024

Easter

Lesson:

Mark 16:1-8

Meditation:

Now What?

COMMUNION SCHEDULE

Maundy Thursday, March 28, 2024 at 7:00 pm

Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024 at 6:00 am and 10:00 am

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.

Virtual Worship Services thru Facebook Live-Streaming.

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**.

**Mission Outreach for March is
Feed My Starving Children (FMSC)**

FMSC believes hope starts with food. As a Christian nonprofit, they are dedicated to seeing every child whole in body and spirit. FMSC works with food distribution partners that stay with communities for the long haul, empowering them to move from relief to development. FMSC meals are developed by food science and nutrition professionals to supplement nutritional needs and reduce problems with malnutrition.

Feed My Starving Children will be held at Neffs UCC on March 10, 2024 from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm. Anyone 6 and older can come and help pack nutritional meals for children across the world. Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. For additional information please see Rae Anne Creyer or Pastor James.

FAMILY PROMISE

Good Shepherd & Heidelberg UCC will be **hosting Family Promise the week of April 28 to May 5**. We need volunteers to greet the arriving families at 6 pm & stay until 8:30 pm; to cook a meal; to stay overnight (8:30pm-6am); and/or to assist with set-up & clean-up on April 28 and May 5. If you are interested in helping with this mission project, please see Ann Hayes or email at ahayes2395@gmail.com.

Family Promise has scheduled host-dates in 2024: April 28-May 5, 2024, and October 13-20, 2024. Please consider volunteering and contact Ann Hayes.

Family Promise is looking for a few more drivers to help transport our families in the 14-passenger van/bus. You do not need any special license. Families are picked at the congregations at 6 a.m. and at the Day Center at 6 p.m. except Saturday and Sunday mornings which is 7 a.m. Congregations are within a 30-minute drive of the Day Center, some just minutes away. If you can sign up for one or two shifts per week, please contact Roslyn at director@fplehighvalley.org



Our Thoughts & Prayers are with...



Homebound Members

Marge Bass	Dennis Derr	
Mary Bilheimer	Betty Humanick	Richard Kuntz
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	Shawn Kress	Bruce Schnell
Gail Bell	Kevin Kroboth	Kylie Schneider
Sherry Bishop	Wayne Kuhns	Sandy Serfass
Jim Craig	Don Kutzner	Dee Dee Sloane
Rob Davis	Chris Newhard	Sallie Solt
Doug Farber	Chris Oertner	Mary Storm
Tina Fetchko	Tony Patrick	Rich Taylor
Donna Fox	Allen Pickwick	MaryEllen White
Lisa Gilly	Allison Pickwick	Louise Zatoris
Keith Gross	Larry Reinhart	Richard Whitehouse
Lee Haas	Connie Renner	Helen Zolnowsky
Sue Jones	Faith Mondrick Lauer	
Boden Kearney		

For The Families Of Those Who Have Entered Eternal For The **Families Of Those Who Have Entered Eternal Life:**

Francis Bauer	Catherine Meckstroth	Theodore Oswald
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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**

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.

SCRIP Report • February 2024

Participants	– 11
Cards Ordered	– 57
Profit	– \$146.03
Profit Year-To-Date	– \$247.41

Orders Due **Sunday, March 10**; delivery on **Sunday, March 17**.

Clothing drop-off box at the rear of the property earns the church money per pound. If you are cleaning out your closets, this is a good fundraiser for the church. 2023 earnings total \$880.

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. 2023 earnings \$129.28.

Calendar

Calendar

March Birthdays

Mar 2	Melissa Gellis	Mar 22	Linda Coffin
Mar 3	Carlton Miller	Mar 23	Jean Fatzinger
Mar 4	Kellie Smith	Mar 23	Susan "Tillie" Waller
Mar 6	Denise Biegly	Mar 24	Randy Parks
Mar 7	Deb Craig	Mar 24	Eric Smith
Mar 7	James George, Jr.	Mar 25	Megan Banks
Mar 7	Delaney Lilly	Mar 25	Tania Kresge
Mar 9	Sonja Derkits	Mar 25	Michael Sander
Mar 9	Olivia Horninger	Mar 26	Doug Farber
Mar 9	Cassie Knittle	Mar 26	Michael Gellis
Mar 9	Missy Lilly	Mar 26	Calliope McGinnis
Mar 12	Tiffany Lloyd	Mar 26	Gail Nonnemaker
Mar 13	Barry Silfies	Mar 26	Mary Storm
Mar 17	Wylan Redline	Mar 27	Richard Smith
Mar 18	Linda Henninger	Mar 28	Kevin Fister
Mar 18	Megann Rodrigues	Mar 28	Tucker Kern
Mar 19	Gary Fatzinger	Mar 30	Todd Fetchko
Mar 21	Mackenzie Ferber	Mar 30	Richard Kohler
Mar 21	Sandy Hantz	Mar 31	Kay Costenbader
Mar 21	Dwayne Kern	Mar 31	Fiona Dieter
		Mar 31	Troy Weaver

March Anniversaries

Mar 16	Gary & Jean (Fritzinger) Fatzinger
Mar 19	David & Emily (Silfies) McGinnis
Mar 21	James & Eileen (Walters) George

The Winners of the February Lottery are: Edgar & Shirley Smith



See Karen Smith to participate.

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

One Great Hour of Sharing is one of four special mission offerings of the United Church of Christ. This Lenten Offering supports the disaster, refugee, and development ministries of the United Church of Christ within Wider Church Ministries. We will have a special offering on Easter Sunday, March 31. If you receive envelopes, there is one included in your packet, or you can use one of the mission envelopes located in the Narthex.

220 cans of corn are needed for the **Northern Lehigh Food Bank** Easter meal handout by **March 10**.

For “Soup”er Bowl Sunday, we collected 174 cans of soup and 27 boxes of crackers for the Northern Lehigh Food Bank. We also collected \$146.70 for CACPAC.

From your ONA Ministry Team.

We are hosting a Winter Gathering for churches to learn about topics that affect the ONA ministry of the United Church of Christ. The event will be held on Saturday, March 2, 2024, at Colonial Park United Church of Christ, 5000 Devonshire Road, Harrisburg, PA 17109. The event opens with registration at 9:30 A.M and concludes at 3:00 P.M.

Lunch will be provided, no cost to attend, free will offering to cover food & speakers. Have your members contact Steve Roush through his email address of scroush2@gmail.com, for registration to the event. In the email, please have them include their name and church name. The deadline for registration is Sunday, February 25, 2024.

Lancaster Theological Seminary trip is Saturday, March 9, 2024 leaving at 8 am. If interested, please see Pastor James.

COMING EVENTS

Gone Fishin’ Night ~ April 20, 2024 Doors open at 4 pm

Little Caesar’s Pizza Kit Sale coming soon.

SPORTSMAN'S NIGHT RAFFLE WINNERS LIST

January 27, 2024

<u>Prize #</u>	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Seller</u>
1. Savage Axis XP 30-06	Gary Beltz	Gary Beltz
2. Timber Hawk Camo Backpack	Chad Peters	Linda Soldridge
3. Camo Crossbow Case	Gary Lentz	Eddie Smith
4. Vortex Crossfire Rifle Scope	Harry McAward	Rae Anne Creyer
5. Wildgame Trailcam	Robert Schramel	Robert Schramel
6. SCCY CPX 1 9mm	Allan Blades	Matthew Shields
7. All Caliber Healing Target	Keith Rice	Ed Smith
8. Rage Crossbow Broadheads	Jim Henderson	Mike Bowers
9. 6" Tri-hone knife sharpener	Cindy Schramel	Michelle Schramel
10. Two-in-one Ammo Can	Dee Evans	Rae Anne Creyer
11. 5 Pocket Camo Rifle Case	Joe Conway	Joe Conway
12. Crossfire Rifle Scope	Karen Harrison	Marie Bachman
13. 32-piece Gun Cleaning Kit	Keith Horn	Eddie Smith
14. Shooter Table Rest Bags	Patrick Conway	Joe Conway
15. Savage Axis XP 6.5 Creedmont	Bob Koons	Denise Koons

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Youth Ensemble meets the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, Sunday of the month for children to play games, sing songs, play instruments, and enjoy a snack after church until 11:45. Children ages 5 and up are invited to participate. Littles, ages 3 and 4, can participate with an adult present. This spring the children will be presenting music during the following church services: April 14, May 12, and June 9.

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 first Sunday of the even months in 2024: April 7, June 2, August 4, October 6, December 1. Let Pastor know if you are interested by emailing or texting him.

LENTEN-EASTER SEASON

Lenten Services will be as follows:

Midweek Lenten Services will be held February 21, 28, March 6, 13 and 20 in Fellowship Hall at 6:30 pm with a soup and salad dinner followed by the play entitled *Eyewitness: A Lenten Drama Series*.

Palm Sunday is Sunday, March 24 beginning with the procession of the donkey following Faith Formation at 9:45 am.

Easter Egg Coloring in Fellowship Hall is Wednesday, March 27, 2024 at 6:00 pm. **Donations needed for prizes, plastic filled eggs, plastic eggs with candy to fill the eggs by Palm Sunday, March 24, 2024.**

Maundy Thursday is Thursday, March 28, 2024 at 7:00 pm.

Good Friday Vigil is Friday, March 29, 2024 from noon to 3:00 pm and the worship service is at 7:00 pm.

Annual Easter Egg Hunt is Saturday, March 30, 2024.

Registration is from 10:15 am to 11:00 am. Egg Hunt starts at 11:00 am.

Easter Sunrise Service will be 6:00 am, with the regular worship service being at 10:00 am.

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

Teachers - Youth Class

Mar 3 Deb Craig

Mar 10 Monica Griffith

Mar 17 Pam Puskas

Mar 24 Deb Craig

Mar 31 Easter Party

Children (K-Grade 4)

Amanda Dieter

Pam Puskas (FMSC)

Amanda Dieter

Mary Storm

Palm Sunday

Easter Sunday

Staying in Touch

Office Hours Tuesday 11:00 ~ 3:00

Wednesday Lenten Hours 1:00 ~ 6:00

Church Office: 610-767-9680 Ext. 2

Email: secretary@goodshepherducc.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

March Worship Leaders

Deacon:	Joe Conway
Altar Guild:	Julie Solt
Acolyte:	Connor Solt
Lay Readers:	3 Jodie Hourt
	10 Linda Coffin
	17 Marie Bachman
	24 Pam Puskas
	31 Linda Coffin 6 am/Darlene Nothstein 10 am
Greeters:	3 Karen Smith
	10 Madeline Balliet & Donna Keener
	17 Janice Silliman & Marilyn Rice
	24 Randy & Eileen Andrews
	31 Carol Krum 6 am/The Solt Family 10 am

Power Point Designers: Deb Craig, Eric Hantz

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

Videographer: Beth Kutzner

Snow, Ice, Winter Emergency Cancellations

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