



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

Good Shepherd Faithfully serving ~ Compassionately accepting ~ Transforming together.

# Mountain Reflections March 2025

Dear Friends and Members of Good Shepherd UCC ~

When I saw the following poem, I couldn't help but think of how Christ must have felt when he offered love, acceptance and forgiveness to the crowds, but they just turned away. Like my feeling of overwhelming sadness when people have left the church. It's entitled "Just let them."

If they want to choose something or someone over you  
... let them

If they want to go weeks without talking to you ... let them

If they are okay with never seeing you ... let them

If they are okay with always putting themselves first ... let them

If they are showing you who they are and not what you perceive them to be ... let them

If they want to follow the crowd ... let them

If they want to judge or misunderstand you ... let them

If they act like they can live without you ... let them

If they want to walk out of your life and leave, hold the door open and ... let them

Let them lose you, you were never theirs because you were always your own.

Heartbreaking reality.  
With the yoke of Christ,  
Pastor James

## **MARCH LECTIONARY**

**March 2, 2025**

**Transfiguration Sunday**

Lesson:

Luke 9:28-36

Meditation:

Astounding Glory

**March 9, 2025**

**1st Sunday in Lent**

Lesson:

Luke 4:1-13

Meditation:

Wilderness Companions

**March 16, 2025**

**2nd Sunday in Lent**

Lesson:

Luke 13:31-35

Meditation:

Strong and Tender

**March 23, 2025**

**3rd Sunday in Lent**

Lesson:

Luke 13:1-9

Meditation:

Open Invitation

**March 30, 2025**

**4th Sunday in Lent**

Lesson:

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Meditation:

Now What?

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## **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>

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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.



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



**Homebound Members**

|                 |                       |                  |
|-----------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Marge Bass      | Dennis Derr           | Judy Mack        |
| 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 |
| 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**

|                     |                    |                  |
|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Fiona Dieter        | Janet Kitchell     | Dennis Raver     |
| Doug Farber         | Margaret Kresge    | Richards Family  |
| Bob Gross           | Susan Lukon        | Kylie Schneider  |
| Lee Haas            | Judy Mack          | Donald Schraden  |
| Frank Hart          | Marion Madenheim   | Leroy Steidinger |
| Michelle Hewitt     | Barbara Mathias*   | Frank Strohl     |
| Jodie Hourt         | Jackie Moffitt     | Mary Ann Wallace |
| Gary Johannes       | Dave Norwood       | Helen Zolnowsky  |
| Boden Kearney       | Scott Pellington*  |                  |
| Hayden Keller       | Eva Marie Poliquim |                  |
| Rick & Sandy Keller |                    |                  |

**\*Denotes hospice care**

*Purged at beginning of each month.*

*Renews are welcomed*

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

|                |               |               |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| Truman Andrews | Ron Anthony   | Gloria Dotter |
| Dawn Mummey    | Alice Schnell | Betsy Wetzig  |

New Members classes will be held on the following dates:  
 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 March is  
 Allentown Rescue Mission**

They are a non-denominational, Christian, Social services organization, which provides critically needed goods and services to homeless and impoverished men, without regard to race, color, creed, national origin or religion. For more than a century, the Mission has addressed the changing face of homelessness, tackling the root causes of homelessness, and helping to end homelessness one life at a time throughout the Lehigh Valley. Their programs include Emergency Shelter, Christian Living Program, the Clean Team, and DeSales Free Clinic.

**SPORTSMAN'S NIGHT RAFFLE WINNERS LIST**

**January 25, 2025**

| <b><u>Prize #</u></b>           | <b><u>Winner</u></b> | <b><u>Seller</u></b> |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Savage Axis XP 30-06         | Audrey Rehrig        | Mary Ann Storm       |
| 2. Shooter Table Rest Bags      | Chet Karpyn          | Matt Shields         |
| 3. Ugly Stick Spincasting Combo | Dean Ritter          | Marie Bachman        |
| 4. Mossy Oak Hunter's Seat      | Bob Zancofsky        | Tammy White          |
| 5. Smth Sharpening System       | Craig Peters         | Frank Soldridge      |
| 6. Rage Crossbow Broadheads     | Cindy Hummel         | Marie Bachman        |
| 7. Boyer Hardware \$100 GC      | Brandon Danner       | Door                 |
| 8. Quartz Deer Scene Wall Clock | Scott Meckel         | Chuck                |
| 9. Outers Gun Cleaning Kit      | Sharon Conway        | Joe Conway           |
| 10. Rechargeable Spotlight      | Gary Fatzinger       | Gary Fatzinger       |
| 11. Digital Trail Cam           | Ted Silfies          |                      |
| 12. Crossbow Target             | Robert Schmidt       | Kim                  |
| 13. Fieldline Backpack          | Keith Horn           | Karen Kuntzman       |
| 14. Crossbow Case               | Gary Reitz           | Gary Reitz           |
| 15. Savage Axis XP 270          | Frank Metzger        | Tammy White          |

### March Birthdays

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

### March Anniversaries

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

**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.

**We need \$700 more in receipts to submit the tapes we have.** It doesn't matter how old they are, as long as they have Save-A-Tape on the bottom of the receipt.

**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 2025 is \$165.**

# Calendar

# Calendar

### **March Worship Leaders**

|              |    |                                 |
|--------------|----|---------------------------------|
| Deacon:      |    | Mary Storm                      |
| Altar Guild: |    | Mary Storm                      |
| Acolytes:    | 2  | Weslie Frano                    |
|              | 5  | TBD (Ash Wednesday)             |
|              | 9  | Holden Schaffer                 |
|              | 16 | Matthew Bowers                  |
|              | 23 | Kendall Frantz                  |
|              | 30 | Holden White                    |
| Lay Readers: | 2  | Kelsey Knittle Moser            |
|              | 5  | Pastor James (Ash Wednesday)    |
|              | 9  | Beth Kutzner                    |
|              | 16 | Pam Puskas                      |
|              | 23 | Dane Badman                     |
|              | 30 | Tammy White                     |
| Greeters:    | 2  | Marie Bachman & Obie O'Brien    |
|              | 5  | TBD (Ash Wednesday)             |
|              | 9  | Todd & Julie Solt & Family      |
|              | 16 | Linda Henninger                 |
|              | 23 | Madeline Balliet & Donna Keener |
|              | 30 | Mark & Tammy Schaeffer          |

**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.

**Thank you** to all who donated soup and crackers for “Soup”er Bowl Sunday. We collected 171 cans of soup and 22 boxes of crackers for the Northern Lehigh Food Bank, and \$300 for CACPAC from Joyful Noise.



## **FAITH FORMATION UPDATE**

**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 or Mary Storm 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, 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 8 ~ *Faith-based Life***

**Date: Sunday, March 9, 2025; 11:15 am – 1:00 pm**

**Session 9 ~ *Mnemonics for Christians***

**Date: Sunday, March 16, 2025; 11:15am - 2:00pm**

**Session 10 ~ *Stewardship/Tithing***

**Date: Sunday, March 23, 2025; 11:15am – Noon**

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The Winner of the February Lottery was: Doug Farber



See Karen Smith to participate.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

The Fundraising Team is selling **Little Caesars pizza kits** through March 2. 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. Pickup will be the week of March 10.

March 1 registration is open for Little Shepherd Preschool for all children. Contact Karen Weaver at [karenls2@hotmail.com](mailto:karenls2@hotmail.com) or visit their Facebook page to learn more.

We are **collecting canned corn** for **Easter** through **April 6** for **Northern Lehigh Food Bank**.

PNEC Spring Meeting will be May 3, 2025 at Union UCC Neffs. PNEC Fall Meeting and Final PNEC Meeting will be November 1, 2025 at St. John's UCC, Nazareth.

**Still looking for a youth to attend as a delegate for either meeting.**

### **SCRIP Report • February 2025**

|               |            |
|---------------|------------|
| Participants  | – 8        |
| Cards Ordered | – 47       |
| Profit        | – \$108.98 |

Orders Due **Sunday, March 9** with delivery on **Sunday, March 16**. Order scrip cards in March to have them in time for Easter celebrations and gift-giving! As a reminder, orders are open to everyone –

**Please ask family and friends, neighbors and coworkers.**

Since December with the increase in participants, our profits have increased without any cost to the congregation. The more who use the Scrip cards, the better it is for the congregation. If you don't already use gift cards to purchase your groceries on a weekly/monthly basis, please consider it.

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

## **EASTER SCHEDULE FOR 2025**

### **MARCH**

05 – Ash Wednesday (Imposition of Ashes) 7:00 pm

### **APRIL**

12 – Palm Sunday (Procession with Donkey 9:45 am)

16 – Color Easter Eggs in Fellowship Hall  
(looking for egg donations)

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 ~ in person registration – 10:15 am – 10:50 am, Egg hunt starts at 11:00 am (looking for candy & prize donations)

10 – Easter Services 6:00 am/10:00 am

**The Faith Formation Team** focuses on adult and youth faith development. This year we will gather the five (5) Wednesdays in Lent and hear guest speakers compare their faith traditions and main tenets with ours.

We are looking for sponsors for salad at \$25/evening. Anyone interested, please speak with Pastor James.

**Nourish Your Body and Spirit This Lent!** 🍎🍲🥗

Join us for a special **Midweek Lenten Gathering** where we'll break bread, share soup, and open our hearts to learning from friends of different faith traditions. Through conversation and community, we'll explore the values we hold in common and discover new ways to walk together in love and understanding. Come for the soup, stay for the wisdom! All are welcome.

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Faith Tradition</b> | <b>Speaker</b>   | <b>Soup</b>          |
|-------------|------------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| <b>3/12</b> | Buddhism               | Joriki Baker     | Vegetable Barley     |
| <b>3/19</b> | Hinduism               | Pats Neelakantan | Cheddar & Broccoli   |
| <b>3/26</b> | New Age                | Nanci Hummer     | Wild Rice & Mushroom |
| <b>4/2</b>  | Native American        | Delwin Fiddler   | Nacho Potato         |
| <b>4/9</b>  | Islam                  | Sumaya Jeeva     | Corn Chowder         |

## **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](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            |

Power Point Designers: Deb Craig, Eric Hantz

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

Webpage Designer: Marie Bachman-[goodshepherduccslatington.org](http://goodshepherduccslatington.org)

### **Snow, Ice, Winter Emergency Cancellations**

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