



GOOD SHEPHERD

UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

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 May 2021

Dear Family and Friends of Good Shepherd United Church of Christ ~

As the saying goes, April showers bring May flowers. A reminder to me that as spring unfolds with flowers blossoming there is a need for the right amount of rain and sunshine to nurture and warm seeds and bulbs buried within the earth. I think of seeds we've planted here at Good Shepherd and how the sunshine and rain have nurtured us through the joys we have experienced and hurdles we have overcome.

I shared recently a message about the need to reinvent ourselves ~ me as a pastor and those who worship as disciples. During this time, I encourage all of us to contemplate what gifts God has blessed each of us with and how we can come together to share these gifts with others on behalf of Christ. Over the past few years, we have made some major changes within the course of our journey. Aspects of these changes include what I refer to as Ministry Teams. These Teams are designed to focus on certain aspects of being the Church that lift up ministry which we are all called to. Perhaps one will speak to your heart and you will want to talk with the Team Coordinator or myself. These Teams include:

Communications Team, coordinated by Deb Craig, centers on social media such as our Website, YouTube Channel, Instagram and other more traditional forms of reaching the larger community like newspapers, radio, television, and posters.

Faith Formation Team, coordinated by Deb Craig and Pam Puskas, creates opportunities for children, youth, and adults to experience moments that form and strengthen their faith journey. Some feel called to teach a faith formation class or participate in VBS or lead special small group gatherings.

MAY LECTIONARY

May 2, 2021	Easter 5
Gospel Lesson:	John 15:1–8
Meditation	<i>Beloved, Be Loved, Be Love</i>
May 9, 2021	Easter 6
Gospel Lesson:	John 15:9–17
Meditation	<i>The Joy of Love</i>
May 16, 2021	Easter 7
Gospel Lesson:	John 17:15–19
Meditation	<i>Join the Witness</i>
May 23, 2021	Day of Pentecost
Gospel Lesson:	John 15:26–27; 16:6-8
Meditation	<i>Pentecost</i>
May 30, 2021	Trinity Sunday
Gospel Lesson:	John 3:11–17
Meditation	<i>Called, Cleaned, and Committed</i>



COMMUNION SCHEDULE

Pentecost ~May 23

We are Following CDC guidelines:

Communion will be celebrated using sealed elements of bread and grape juice. If you wish to stay in your vehicle simply respond at the appropriate time to receive communion by turning on your 4-way flashers and an usher with a mask and gloves will bring You the pre-packaged elements. This offers those who wish to position their vehicles in the parking lot and participate in the service by listening to our FM Station 88.5.

Fellowship Team, coordinated by Dennis Silfies, include those individuals who like cooking, baking, and serving at funeral luncheons, congregational gatherings. If you would like to be contacted to bake goodies or prepare/serve meals, Dennis keeps a list of those who would like to participate in the ministry.

Mission Team, coordinated by Tammy White, lifts up and explores various missions that, we as a congregation, support and promote. A number of those on the Mission Team participate in such activities as delivering items to Christian Action Council of Palmerton Area Churches (CACPAC), creating meals for Veterans and Loved Ones Recovery (VALOR), stocking shelves at Northern Lehigh Food Bank (NLFB), or assist with special donations such as Backpack Buddies.

Resource Team, formerly coordinated by Bryan Horninger, would be a haven for those who like to work with numbers and data. People who enjoy working with Fundraisers, Hall Rentals, Memorials, and other means of congregational income offer suggestions to promote support for the ministry of Good Shepherd.

Vitality Team, coordinated by Dennis Silfies, is active in planning for the future of our congregation focusing on both the physical plant as well as the unfolding mission as people of faith.

Worship Team, coordinated by Pastor James, is made up of a huge number of people who make the hour of worship (normally on Sunday mornings) possible through planning the service, singing in the choir, acting as an acolyte, volunteering as an usher or greeter, and those who clean and decorate the sanctuary for special occasions.

Youth Fellowship Team, coordinated by Mary Lacy, is not just for youth but also individuals who want to support the young in their modeling ministry from a younger perspective and looking to make a bigger impact on the future.

My earnest hope is that every disciple at Good Shepherd might volunteer for one of the Ministry Teams or several. This is an invitation to reinvent and renew our faith as we continue celebrating the past, serving in the present, and planting seeds for the future.

May we feel a surge of energy day by day as we discover ourselves as the people of God and followers of Christ.

Amen.

Pastor James



Our Thoughts &
Prayers
are with...

Homebound Members

Mary Bilheimer Sandra Endres Susan "Tillie" Waller
Kay Costenbader Dolores Gruber

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

Colby Adams Michael Kelsey Janel Tracy
Anthony Babb Rebecca McMichael Jacqueline Tracy
Elijah Colon Cory Musser Nicholas Sander
Kira (Kern) Kelsey David Neff Benjamin Schaffer

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

Family & Friends

Eileen Andrews Linda Coffin Freda Horn Rev. Allen Miller
Anthony Bab Jeff Coffin Chris Ivan Mason Post
Lester Bass Patrick Conway Ann Johnson Pat Reimert
Connie Beblavy Sharon Conway Sandy Keller James Robison
Dick Bell Billy Fister Rick Keller Tammy Schaeffer
Debbie DeLong Delores Gruber Cassie Knittle David Silfies
Joseph Cancel Theresa Goida John Kisthardt Debbie Silfies
Julian Cancel Lisa Gilly Mary Lacy Marion Straub
Joe Conway Eric Hantz Sally Loch

Those effected by Covid-19 ~Those effected by Cancer

For The Families Of Those Who Have Entered Eternal Life:

Frank Johnson Mary Lacy Dan Newhard
The 10 victims of the mass shooting in Boulder Colorado
The 8 victims of the mass shooting in Atlanta Georgia

Those in higher education: Jenna Blynn studying at Florida International University; Toby Sander and Caden Shields, studying at LCCC; Angie Lopez, studying at Widener University; Matthew Shields, studying at Moravian College; Calista Smoyer, studying at West Virginia University; Jacob Taylor, studying at Drexel University; Nathan Taylor, studying at Penn State; Dylan Coffin, studying at Susquehanna University and Paige Bachman, studying at Kutztown University.

God is watching over you...

I know because I asked God to



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>

SUBSCRIBE to our YouTube channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVYHuSsU56ddNI3fhpeqQfg>

WORSHIP IN YOUR CAR:

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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, on the calendar in the narthex. Flower orders and/or bulletin sponsorship must be on the calendar by the prior Sunday. Contact Mary Lacy at (610) 820-9188 or email at cancellacy@AOL.com with any questions.



Repair the Roof

A Campaign to raise funds for the restoration of our Church Roof.



Originally installed in 1984 is now in need of replacing at a cost of \$48,000. Would you like to help? Gifts in Honor of or in Memory of ~ for Memorial Day, Mothers' Day, Fathers' Day or Graduation Day, can be placed in the offering plate and noted as such.

Good Shepherd's Fellowship Hall is the perfect venue for your event. The hall has the capacity to hold 210 people, and there are members of Good Shepherd who can help you plan the event, right down to the last detail. For more information, call Madeline Balliet at (610) 769-0810.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

May 1	Lisa Kuntz	May 18	Dale Ann Derr
May 1	Tyler Rex	May 19	Linda Schock
May 2	Kyan Block	May 20	Zachary Dodd
May 2	William Fister	May 20	Aiden Conway
May 2	Karen Smith	May 22	Gregory Schuck
May 2	Xander Nothstein	May 23	Stephanie Gursky
May 4	Elizabeth Frantz	May 23	Tina Hunsicker
May 5	Barry Rice, Sr.	May 23	Tanner Kresge
May 5	Joan Heffelfinger	May 23	Kelsey Goodhile
May 6	Tracey Gursky	May 24	Jonell Kuremsky
May 8	Craig Fallon	May 25	Rowan Rinker
May 8	Riley Fallon	May 26	Carrie Block
May 9	Janice Farber	May 26	Glenn Knappenberger
May 10	Abigail Allen	May 26	Reagan Walters
May 10	Kiersten Fink	May 27	Dylan Coffin
May 10	Keegan Kohler	May 27	Jackie Amey
May 11	Carrie John	May 27	Gabriella Smoyer
May 12	Annette Haas	May 28	Amanda Bowers
May 12	Hayley Knittle	May 28	Jessica Mack
May 12	Gary Reider	May 28	Richard Schock
May 12	Ella White	May 28	Ann Behler
May 13	Matthew Shields, Sr.	May 29	Amy Heffelfinger-Horninger
May 15	Richard Kuntz	May 29	David Silfies
May 16	Donna Fox	May 31	Cheryl Bowers
May 17	Thomas Wentz	May 31	Rick Keller
May 18	Anna Trelease		

Mission

For May is: Muscular Dystrophies Association

www.mda.org

MDA is leading the fight to free individuals — and the families who love them — from the harm of muscular dystrophy, ALS and related muscle-debilitating diseases that take away physical strength, independence and life. We use our collective strength to help kids and adults live longer and grow stronger by finding research breakthroughs across diseases, caring for individuals from day one and empowering families with services and support in hometowns across America.

Congratulations to the new Director of the
Northern Lehigh Food Bank ~ Barbara Scheirer ~

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

May 1	Dale & Amy (Neff) Knittle
May 1	Jasmine & Megann (Gracely) Rodrigues
May 2	Donald & Roxy (Oldt) Schraden
May 2	Thomas & Fae (Costenbader) Wentz
May 3	Carlton & Terri (Reinheimer) Miller
May 5	Michael & Carrie (Kohler) Block
May 6	Butch & Ellen (Mack) Biegly
May 7	Michael & Susan (Endres) Banke
May 7	Ed & Karen (Youse) Smith
May 13	Tyler & Taylor (Lagler) Rex
May 14	Kevin & Kellie (Romig) Smith
May 16	Walter and Donna (Kuntz) Fox
May 16	Terry & Debra (Ledo) Derhammer
May 17	Willard & Barbara (Handwerk) Neff
May 17	Gerald & Shirley (Bowman) Phillips
May 21	Dale & Amy (Neff) Knittle
May 23	Erick & Tania (Olsen) Kresge
May 27	Randy & Carol (Gruber) Kresge
May 27	Richard & Debbie (Thomas) Taylor
May 27	Peter & Stacey (Ruddick) Beblavy
May 30	Blaine & Marilyn (Bisko) Reitz

LOTTERY TICKETS

thank you for your Support

See Karen Smith for next Lottery Tickets

Youth Fellowship News

All youth are invited to play bells during church service on Mother's Day, May 9th, and Father's Day, June 20th. Practice will be held during Youth Fellowship on May 2nd and June 6th. Youth Group meets right after church. Come on out kids! Have some fun and make a joyful noise!

Support their Fundraiser for the Heifer Foundation

Heifer Foundation's mission is to raise and oversee financial assets to support the work of Heifer International, but we can't do it without you. We offer donors a variety of ways to provide for themselves and their loved ones while helping a world in great need. Please take a water bottle and fill it with dimes return it on May 23, 2021 ~ Pentecost! Thank you.





Gratitude Reminder - A Little or A Lot

*If you use gratitude a little,
your life will change a little.
If you use gratitude a lot every day,
your life will change a lot.*

Easter, and the Great Fifty Days of Easter, is truly a season for great thanksgiving. It is a season of gratitude as we offer great thanks for the gift of the Risen Christ. But it is also a time to thank God for all the gifts God has so generously given us, many of which we may take for granted.

SCRIP Summary APRIL 2021

Participants	8	Don't forget to order your gift cards for Father's Day, Weddings and Graduations!
Cards Ordered	41	
Profit	\$ 102.50	
Profit Year-To-Date	\$ 432.01	

Next month's orders are due **Sunday, May 9th**
and will be delivered on **Sunday, May 16th**

Financial Update

Mar 7	\$2,886.00	E-giving	\$265.00
Mar 14	\$2,237.00	E-giving	\$314.12
Mar 21	\$3,316.80	E-giving	\$395.00
Mar 28	\$1,892.00	E-giving	\$514.12
Apr 04	6:00 am \$2,011.00	Total E-giving	
	8:00 am \$2,091.00		\$425
	10:00 am \$1,872.00		

G Giving - Good Stewardship Made Easy
<https://get.tithe.ly/download-tithely-app>

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 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.



Have a musical talent that you would like to share? Beth is looking to fill summer Sundays' special music with talented people from our congregation. If you would like to sign up for a Sunday, please email or call Beth Kutzner. beperkins@live.com or 570-240-0044

Little Caesars Pizzas and more!

Delivery will be the week of May 10th



Financial Peace University 2021

Save The Dates: Wednesdays 6:30-8:00pm

June 16 through August 11, 2021

Classes usually last about 120 minutes.

We'll meet together to watch and discuss the videos and do activities.

Financial Peace University (FPU) is the nine-lesson class that will teach you how to pay off debt, save and invest for your future. You'll also connect with others, just like you who can hold you accountable, encourage you, and celebrate your progress!

Here is the direct link to the Good Shepherd class:

fpu.com/1133881

Here is the link to promotional materials for print and online:

<https://www.financialpeace.com/coordinator/promo>

Vacation Bible School

Save The Dates: August 1st to August 5th

Sunday 5pm to 8pm -we will have a
small supper for the kids

Monday thru Wednesday 6pm to 8pm- classes,
crafts and activities Thursday 7pm - Closing program



Do you know someone who has no Computer or no Technology?

but they still would like the Newsletter?

Give us their name, and address to make sure we have it, and we will send them a copy of the monthly newsletter.

Contact Susan Layland at the office: 610-767-9680

or email her at: secretary@goodshepherduccslatington.org

Staying in Touch

www.GoodShepherdUCCSlatington.org

And also "Like" us on:

www.facebook.com/GSUCC.Slatington

Contact Susan Layland

secretary@goodshepherduccslatington.org

CONTACTING PASTOR JAMES D. ROBISON, JR

Church Office: 610-767-9680

Mobile Phone: 484-571-6083

Email: jamdarrob@gmail.com

MAY WORSHIP LEADERS

Elder: Pam Puskas

Deacon: Amanda Bowers

Acolytes: May 2: Kyan Block

Mothers' Day - May 9: Aiden Solt

May 16: Abby Allen

Pentecost - May 23: Jazmin Richardson

Memorial Weekend - May 30: Noah Griffith

Altar Guild: Julie Solt

Power Point Designer: Deb Craig

A/V Operators: Eric Hantz

Bryan Horninger

Evan Horninger

Stacy Cunningham

Videographer: Beth Kutzner

Attendance Monitors: Pam Puskas

Greeters & Sanitizers: Eddie & Karen Smith

Faith Formation Classes

The teachers and crafts are all assigned for May's schedule.

May 2 – Pam Puskas teaching – Beth Kutzner craft

May 9 – Mary Lacy teaching – Stacy Cunningham craft

May 16 – Susie Blose teaching – Deb Craig craft

May 23 – Pam Puskas teaching – Deb Craig craft

May 30 – Monica Griffith teaching – Stacy/Karen craft

**Remember you can stop by and
pick-up Lessons for home students.**

In Service to the Lord