



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 November 2025

Dear Friends and Members of Good Shepherd UCC ~

As the leaves fall and the days grow shorter, November invites us into a season of reflection and thanksgiving. We pause to give thanks ~ not just for the abundance on our tables, but for the blessings that shape our lives every day: faith, friendship, community, and love.

This month is especially meaningful to me as I begin my *28th year* as your pastor. It is hard to put into words what this journey has meant. You have welcomed me into your lives ~ not only as a pastor, but as part of your family. We have walked together through seasons of joy and sorrow, of growth and challenge, always seeking to be faithful to the One who calls us into community.

I am deeply grateful for the trust, grace, and love you have shared with me over these years. This congregation has become my home, and each of you, my heart.

As we move toward Thanksgiving and the holy season of Advent, may we carry forward a spirit of gratitude, generosity, and renewed purpose. I look forward to continuing this sacred journey with you ~ side by side, heart to heart.

With love and deep thanksgiving,

Pastor James

NOVEMBER LECTIONARY

November 2, 2025	21st Sunday after Pentecost
Scripture:	Luke 19:1-10
Meditation:	Transforming Love
November 9, 2025	22nd Sunday after Pentecost
Scripture:	2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17
Meditation:	Hold on to Faith
November 16, 2025	23rd Sunday after Pentecost
Scripture:	Isaiah 65:17-25
Meditation:	Infinite Possibilities
November 23, 2025	24th Sunday after Pentecost
Scripture:	Colossians 1:11-20
Meditation:	Together in Christ
November 30, 2025	25th Sunday after Pentecost
Scripture:	Matthew 3:1-12
Meditation:	Called to Gift

COMMUNION SCHEDULE

Advent Communion ~ November 30, 2025 at 10:00 am

Virtual Worship Services: Our Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/GSUCC.Slatington>

Live-Streaming You Tube and Facebook allows us to continue our services for those unable to attend in person.

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.

Theology with a Twist ~ Food Insecurity in our Neighborhood Tuesday, November 4 at 7 pm

Kutztown Tavern at 272 W Main St, Kutztown, PA 19530. We gather in the upper room of the tavern the first Tuesday of each month at 7pm for a time of learning and discussion about a variety of spiritual, religious, and theological topics presented by local experts in their field. The event is free but food and drink can be purchased in the restaurant downstairs and brought up to our event space. Parking is available in the community lot behind the tavern or on Main Street. All are welcome! 2

**Mission Outreach for November is
Turning Point**

Domestic violence is a crime. If you are mentally, sexually, physically assaulted, threatened or harassed by a person you are living with or intimately involved with, you are a victim of domestic abuse. Abuse can be verbal, physical, emotional, sexual, or economic. An abused person can be male or female, gay or straight, of any age, race, class, culture, religion or occupation. Recognizing a growing need, a small group came together in 1976 to establish "May Day Anonymous", answering hotline calls from women who were victims of domestic violence in the area.

In 1978, the group was granted nonprofit status and evolved into Turning Point of Lehigh Valley. Since its incorporation, Turning Point of Lehigh Valley (TPLV) has helped more than 100,000 victims of domestic abuse.

www.turningpointlv.org or www.facebook.com/turningpointlv

Fiscal Oversight Committee will be holding a **Budget Hearing** following church on Sunday, **November 9**.

Consistory is calling a **Congregational Meeting** on Sunday, **November 16th** following church.

The **Chancel Choir** has started rehearsing and complementing our worship services with their joyful noise. Chancel Choir meets Tuesdays from 7-8 PM. Chancel Choir pieces for November include *Love Came Down, I Will Go Wherever God Calls, Assurance Medley, Thanksgiving Medley* and *Bring Us Hope*. **The annual Christmas Cantata will be held on December 7th**. This year's cantata is titled "*This is Christmas*". The energy and soaring melodies will have your heart singing praises to the coming of the Christ Child! Consider joining the Chancel Choir in this spectacular musical moment! Sheet music and CDs or MP3 recordings will be available for at home practice. A dress rehearsal will take place on Saturday, December 6th from 9AM-12PM.

You are always welcome at Chancel Choir whether you can sing every Sunday, or just a few Sundays, we would love to have you with us!



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

	Lee Haas	
Glenn Bankert	First Responders	Karen Papay
Chelsea Behler	Frank Hart	Dennis Raver
Gail Bell	Barbara Horn	Ty Sander
Joe Capallio	Barbara Hower	Gary Schneck
Chastity Corvino	Brett Hunsicker	Barry Silfies
David Demera	Gary Johannes	Frank Soldridge
Fiona Dieter	Hayden Keller	Frank Strohl
Paul Ermlich	Sandy Keller	Jenn Wentz
Doug Farber	Frances Kuntz	Dayton White
Tina Fetchko	Lauri	Jim Yost
Sarah Godfrey	Chris Oertner	John Zellner

Purged at beginning of each month, Renewals are welcomed

For The Families Of Those Who Have Entered Eternal Life:

Jen Engle	Donna Fritz	Donald George
Brian Leitgeb	Aida Marrero	Barbara A. Neff
Kaylee Quevedo	Rich Remaley	Aiden Wheelock
Matthias Wheelock	Nathaniel Wheelock	Kathy Yost
	Helen Zolnowsky	

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Faith Formation Groups meet on Sunday mornings beginning at 9:00 AM with opening activities in the Fellowship Hall.

Opportunities for:

Newborns to 5 year olds - Nursery with Mary Storm, Samantha Shoemaker, Kelsey & Jordan Knittle-Moser, and Brandi Palmer

K thru 4th grade - Children with Amanda Smith, MaryAnn Storm, Chastity Corvino

5th thru 7th grade - Preteens with RaeAnne Creyer, Beth Frantz

8th thru 12th grade - Youth with Monica Griffith, Eric Hantz

College Faith Formation with Marie Bachman, Pastor James

Staff – Pam Puskas, Deb Craig, Dennis Silfies, Beth Kutzner, Tammy White, Amanda Dieter

Exciting Activities for the fall:

Friendsgiving in Fellowship Hall after church on **November 23** for the congregation including covered dish, and crafts ~ 11:30am-1pm

Hanging of the Greens on **November 29** to decorate classrooms and help in the sanctuary to get ready for the Christmas season.

Gingerbread House Decorating on **December 7** with voting by the congregation for their favorites

The **Christmas Pageant** will be on **December 14** at 6pm with rehearsals on Saturday, December 6 and 13

Christmas Caroling on **December 21** after church. All family members are welcome to join as we travel to homebound members to spread holiday cheer.

Come support our youth in their faith journey!

2025 Fall Confirmation Schedule

What Protestants Believe – November 2, 2025, 11:15am – 2:00pm

Polity – November 9, 2025; 11:15 am –1:00 pm

Stewardship/Tithing – November 23 2025; 11:15 am – Noon

Service and Mission – November 30, 2025; 11:15 am – Noon

Totenfest is Sunday, November 2, 2025 at 10:00 am.

Calendar

Calendar

November Birthdays

Nov 1	Geraldine Boyer	Nov 19	Linda Frey
Nov 2	Connie Beblavy	Nov 19	Eric Hantz
Nov 2	David McGinnis	Nov 19	Dick Nothstein
Nov 3	Ryan Hartmaier	Nov 20	Stefan Bartczak
Nov 6	Sheri Fallon	Nov 20	Duke Christman
Nov 6	Marilyn Reitz	Nov 20	Carol Kresge
Nov 6	Slade Schaffer	Nov 20	Paul Pitruzzello
Nov 6	Dayton White	Nov 21	Alex Beblavy
Nov 9	David Goodhile	Nov 21	Kerry Loch
Nov 10	Jasmine Feller	Nov 22	Matt Snyder
Nov 11	Gerald Phillips	Nov 23	Marge Bass
Nov 12	Patti Conway	Nov 23	Ryan Smoyer
Nov 13	Kyle Kremposky	Nov 24	Jasmine Rodrigues
Nov 14	Samantha Richardson	Nov 24	Colleen Shields
Nov 15	Ann Johnson	Nov 25	Sherry Bishop
Nov 15	Landon Moll	Nov 27	John Gellis
Nov 15	Kylie Solt	Nov 28	Richard Croll
Nov 15	Susan Zellner	Nov 30	Pam Puskas

November Anniversaries

Nov 1	Randy & Eileen (Brobst) Andrews
Nov 2	Robert & Denise (Rodrigues) Koons, Sr.
Nov 7	Billy & Ashley (Miller) Nagy
Nov 12	Jamie & Angie (Shelly) Rex
Nov 17	Sean & Chelsea (Tinker) Harding
Nov 18	Matt & Kim (Cogle) Rex
Nov 18	Ben & Allison (Conway) Schaffer
Nov 23	Robert & Jane (Humphries) Evans

The Winner of the October Lottery was: Alice Kegel



See Karen Smith to participate.

Thank you to those who made contributions in memory of the following:

In Memory of Charlotte Bauer (1944-2025)

Lucille Radocha, David & Linda Wuerstle, and Thomas & Diane Zeiser.

In Memory of Warren “Boise” Reitz (1951-2025)

Ray & Fianna Christman, George & Leoma Kern, Mildred Kistler, John & Michele McGovern, Richard K. Smith, Thomas & Diane Zeiser, and John & Susan Zellner.

In Memory of Patricia Reimert (1951-2025)

Michael Bachman, Donald & Carole Chaplin, Roland & :Lori Lenhart, Donald & Brenda Norder, Michael Reimert & Kathleen Bonner, Clifford & Sarah Romig, George & Joan Romig, John & Debbie Romig, Wilbur & Linda Romig, and John & Susan Zellner.

We welcomed the following **New Members** on September 21, 2025: **Emma Blades, Nathan Flexer, Kathryn Foster, Donna Keener, Jordan Knittle-Moser, Marie Reitz and MaryAnn Storm** The Good Shepherd family welcomes you!

Altar Flowers and Bulletins

Thank you to our August bulletin sponsors:

August 17 in Memory of son, James Skubish’s birthday
by Eileen & Randy Andrews

August 31 in Memory of Loved Ones
by Mr. & Mrs. Gary Fatzinger

Thank you to our sponsors for September & October flowers:

September 15 in honor of Donna Keener’s church membership
October 26 in Memory of Tom Craig by his family

Thank you to our October “Holy Grounds” sponsors:

October 19~Pastor James

October 26~Randy & Eileen Andrews

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Cash & Nov. 15th, 2025
1:00 pm
Doors open at Noon
Kitchen will be open



\$25 20 Regular Games
5 Specials

All Regular Games Win
\$25 Gift Card or \$25 Cash
As Specified

All Special Games Win Various Cash Prizes

Good Shepherd
United Church of Christ
3940 Mountain Rd Slatington, PA 18080
For Info Call Bonnie 484-225-2947
Lic. #: PA 0228R24

Tickets Sold in Advance or at the Door

www.GoodShepherdUCCSlatington.org www.facebook.com/GSUCCLatington

Thanks to all the helpers & people who donated baskets for the Basket Social on October 18. **Profit was \$3,695.28** with 155 people attending and 106 baskets being donated.

We are collecting individual packages of applesauce for Backpack Buddies through December 31. We collected 98 cans of spaghetti and 60 bags of snack crackers during July and August. Northern Lehigh School District serves about 100 families each week.

We are collecting 200 cans of corn for both Thanksgiving and Christmas meals at the Northern Lehigh Food Bank.

Thanksgiving -corn needed by Sunday 11/9

Christmas-corn needed by 12/7

Bonnie Bates is retiring after serving the Penn Northeast Conference for 8 years as PNEC's Conference Minister. To say, "thank you", we are having a banquet in her honor on Sunday, November 16, 2025, 3-7 pm at Northampton Community Center, 1601 Laubach Ave, Northampton. Cost: \$30/person. To make reservations send a check to PNEC, 431 Delaware Ave., Palmerton, PA 18071 with a list of attendees or use tithe.ly at: <https://tithe.ly/eventregistration/#/10377579>.

Love Your Neighbor
Community Outreach Day ♡
Saturday, November 15
Together, we can do so much more!

Save the Date,
Watch for Sign
Ups!

Our churches will share in a day of service projects like Habitat for Humanity, packing toiletry and clean up kits, and yard clean ups for church members.

Participating Churches include:
 Union UCC, Neffs; St. John's UCC Laury's Station;
 Jordan UCC, Allentown;
 Heidelberg Union, Slatington;
 Good Shepherd UCC, Slatington; Union Lutheran,
 Schnecksville; Grace UCC Northampton,
 St. John's UCC, Fullerton.



Check out the opportunities in the Narthex and bring donation items for Hygiene Kits by Sunday, November 9th.

Hygiene Kits for Caring Hearts

- **1-gallon resealable plastic bag**
- **Washcloth**
- **Toothbrush (in original packing)**
- **Fingernail or toenail clipper (packaging removed)**
- **Bath-size bar of soap (in original packaging)**
- **Travel-size deodorant (3.4 oz. or less, non-aerosol)**
- **Travel-size lotion (3.4 oz. or less, fragrance-free, NEW only)**
- **Travel-size shampoo (3.4 oz. or less, NEW only)**
- **Travel-size toothpaste (3.4 oz. or less, expiration date of 1 year)**
- **Sturdy wide-tooth comb (6" minimum teeth, packaging removed)**

SCRIP Report • October 2025

Participants	-	7
Cards Ordered	-	38
Profit	-	\$110.88

Orders Due **Sunday, October 12** with delivery on **Sunday, October 19**. It's not too early to start thinking about Christmas gift cards! **Please ask family and friends, neighbors and coworkers.**

Staying in Touch

Office Hours Tuesday, Wednesday 8:00 am – 1:00 pm
Thursday 8:00 am – 12:00 pm

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

November Worship Leaders

Deacon:	Amanda Smith
Elder:	Tammy White
Altar Guild:	Bonnie Hewitt
Acolytes:	2 Callie McGinnis
	9 Mackenzie Palmer
	16 Callie McGinnis
	23 Mackenzie Palmer
	30 Callie McGinnis
Lay Readers:	2 Kelsey Knittle-Moser
	9 Tammy White
	16 Darlene Nothstein
	23 Carol Oswald
	30 RaeAnne Creyer
Greeters:	2 Noah Griffith
	9 Carol Krum
	16 Lathy Elston & Mike Passaro
	23 Joe & Sharon Conway
	30 Randy & Eileen Andrews

Power Point Designers: Deb Craig, Eric Hantz

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

Web Designer: Marie Bachman