



GOOD SHEPHERD

UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

Pastor James D. Robison, Jr

3940 Mountain Road Slatington, PA 18080

www.GoodShepherdUCCSlatington.org 610/767-9680
www.facebook.com/GSUCC.Slatington

Good Shepherd Faithfully serving ~ Compassionately accepting ~ Transforming together.

A Season of Beginning

Dear Friends and Members of Good Shepherd UCC ~
September carries the feeling of a new year ~ students
return to classrooms, rhythms shift, and the air subtly
changes. In the life of our church, it is also a season of
renewed energy and ministry.

The Holy One delights in beginnings. We see this in
creation, in scripture, and in our own lives. Every fresh start
is an opportunity to learn, grow, connect, and discover
where God is leading us. This month, let us recommit
ourselves to worship, service, learning, and fellowship. Our
community is strengthened when each person offers their
unique gifts.

As programs resume and opportunities unfold, may we
approach them with curiosity and joy. Let us pray for our
students and educators, for volunteers, and for all who
shape our shared ministries.

May the Spirit bless this season with open hearts, renewed
purpose, and the courage to follow where God is calling.

Grateful for new beginnings with you,

Pastor James

Mountain Reflections September 2026

AUGUST LECTIONARY

September 6, 2026	Labor Day Communion
Scripture:	Exodus 12:1-14
Meditation:	Remember, Restore, Renew
September 13, 2026	16th Sunday after Pentecost
Scripture:	Exodus 14:19-31
Meditation:	Road to Freedom
September 20, 2026	17th Sunday after Pentecost
Scripture:	Exodus 16:2-15
Meditation:	Tensions in the Wilderness
September 27, 2026	18th Sunday after Pentecost
Scripture:	Exodus 17:1-7
Meditation:	God's Sustaining Presence

COMMUNION SCHEDULE

Labor Day Communion ~ Sunday, September 6, 2026 at 10:00 am
Worldwide Communion ~ Sunday, October 4, 2026 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>

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.

Looking for office volunteers who would be able and willing to scan a large number of photos and put them on a flash drive (provided) as a way to preserve our congregation's history. Please contact Pastor James or Eileen Andrews if you would like to help.



Our Thoughts & Prayers are with...



Homebound Members

Marge Bass	Dennis Derr	Judy Mack
Mary Bilheimer	Donna Fox	Carol Schweitzer
Shirley Blynn	Susan 'Tillie' Waller	
Kay Costenbader		

Those Serving Our Country In the Armed Services

Colby Adams	Michael Kelsey	Jacob Molchan
Anthony Babb	Marcus Loch	Adam Moyer
Sean Bolza	Rebecca McMichael	Spencer Perkins
Kira (Kern) Kelsey	Jacqueline (Tracy) Moyer	Janel Tracy

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

Family & Friends

Tom Alcaro	Steve George	Lauri
Karen Anthony	Lee Haas	Chris Oertner
Gail Bell	Diane Hardy	Randy Parks
Barbara Beltz	Cheryl Henning	Pam Puskas
Marc Benninger	Dwayne Henritz	Grace Ramely
Howard Bilheimer	Tania Hewitt	Ty Sander
Barbara Cannon*	Barbara Hower	Harriet Schmon
Lori Clay	Brett Hunsicker	Gary Schneck
Deb Derhammer	Gary Johannes	Barry Soldridge
Doug Farber	Penny Keen	Bonnie Spangler
Jean Fatzinger	Hayden Keller	Megane Streisel
Donna Fox	Jim Koneschusky	Jenn Wentz
Jennifer Frohnheiser		John Zellner

***Denotes hospice care**

Purged at beginning of each month, Renewals are welcomed

For The Families Of Those Who Have Entered Eternal Life:

Carol Adams	Chuck Aurand	Carol George
Michael James	Bob Jischke	Mary Kent
Minnie Koch	Larry Lentz	Diane Reitz
Ben Remaley	Rev. Derek A. Terry	Betty Wagner

SCRIP Summary • August 2026

Participants	—	6
Cards Ordered	—	29
Profit	—	\$97.13

This month's orders will be due on Sunday, September 13 with delivery on Sunday, September 20.

As a reminder, orders are open to everyone — *please ask family and friends, neighbors and coworkers!*

Thank you to our August volunteers for cutting the grass: Dean Harper, Horninger Family, Kevin Minnich, Evan Shoemaker, and Craig Solt. We need mowers for the following weeks: **September 20, September 27, and the month of October.** Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. The church provides the riding mower and the gas.

September Anniversaries

Sep 2	Jeff & Michelle (Dieffenderfer) Hewitt
Sep 4	Ryan & Alana (Zellner) Smoyer
Sep 6	Chris & Barbara (Hewitt) Lorah
Sep 6	Jesse & Tammy (Kunkle) White
Sep 7	Karl & Joan (Skutches) Heffelfinger
Sep 7	Erv & Roxanne (Shupp) Prutzman
Sep 9	Pete & Kelly (Ruddick) Beblavy
Sep 9	Joe & Sharon (Mack) Conway
Sep 10	Ryan & Jennifer (Chilcoat) Fister
Sep 12	Kevin & Tina (Roth) Minnich
Sep 12	Shane & Maggie (Levan) White
Sep 19	John & Susan (DeLong) Zellner
Sep 20	Dennis & Keri (Rose) Dimmig
Sep 21	Jarett & Danielle (Schmidt) White
Sep 25	Michael & Cheryl (Bender) Bowers
Sep 27	David & Kelsey (Kuntz) Goodhile
Sep 30	Gary & Robin (Balliet) Bellesfield

September Birthdays

Sep 1	Nelson Frantz	Sep 14	Judy Neff
Sep 1	Emersyn Rex	Sep 15	Gail Fetchko
Sep 2	Jeff Coffin	Sep 16	Dale Knittle
Sep 2	Barbara DeLong	Spe 16	Dean Knittle
Sep 2	Carol Schweitzer	Sep 17	Alorah Badman
Sep 3	Giovanni Fricchione	Sep 17	Annette Fatzinger
Sep 3	Marilyn Rice	Sep 17	Luke Hosier
Sep 3	Eden Shoemaker	Sep 17	Heather Moyer
Sep 3	Alana Smoyer	Sep 18	Taylor Farber
Sep 4	Heather Kremposky	Sep 18	Addison Schappell
Sep 4	Madeline Kremposky	Sep 19	Owen Amey
Sep 4	Jamie Rex	Sep 19	Karen Kuntzman
Sep 5	Robbie Schramel, Jr	Sep 20	Christopher Lorah
Sep 8	Addyson Alcaro	Sep 20	Nicholas Sander
Sep 8	Kevin Minnich	Sep 21	Mark Miller
Sep 9	Terry Shelly	Sep 23	Easton Sander
Sep 10	Patrick Conway	Sep 23	Chad Sommers
Sep 11	Michael Block	Sep 24	Edward Smith
Sep 11	Michele Hunsicker	Sep 28	Zachary Haberman
Sep 12	Toby Frantz	Sep 28	Nancy Leitgeb
Sep 13	Jodie Hourt	Sep 29	Nichole Jones
Sep 13	Joanne Passaro	Sep 29	Travis Redline
Sep 13	Michelle Schramel	Sep 30	Diane Fister

Prayers for Students in higher education: Dane Badman ~ LCCC,
 Tyla Block ~ Widener, Patrick Conway ~ Jacksonville University,
 Riley Fallon ~ Penn State, Ben Griffith ~ NCC,
 Katy Griffith ~ Cedar Crest, Emma Hope ~ Shippensburg,
 Sarah Hope ~ DeSales, Cece Pyfer ~ LCCC,
 Breonna Richardson ~ West Chester, Colleen Shields ~ Strayer,
 Gabriella Smoyer ~ Cedar Crest

Calendar

Calendar

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fundraising will once again be offering **Boscov's Friends Helping Friends Shopping Passes** for a \$5.00 donation. The pass will be good for on-line and in store shopping on **Wednesday, October 21st, 2026** from 8 AM - 11 PM. Last year we took in a profit of \$535.00. If anyone is interested, passes will be available in the narthex. We also encourage everyone to help with promoting this worthwhile project.

"WALK-IN" - ONE DAY - BASKET SOCIAL

Saturday, Oct. 3, 2026

9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Tickets will be drawn at 2:00 PM

Tickets Available at Door

(1) 26 Chance Ticket for \$5.00

(5) 26 Chance Tickets for \$20.00

Winners Will Be Notified

Kitchen Open

Good Shepherd U.C.C.

3940 Mountain Rd, Slatington, PA

610-767-9680

Lic. #: 0275R25

Sign-up sheets in the Narthex to donate baskets, baked goods and to help the day of the social or to set up the day before.

Fundraising will be having a **meeting after church** on **Sunday, September 13, 2026** to discuss upcoming events.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Faith Formation classes will resume on Sunday, September 27, 2026.

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

Opportunities include:

Nursery (Newborns to 5 year olds) with Kelsey & Jordan Knittle-Moser

Children (K thru 4th grade) with Amanda Smith, MaryAnn Storm

Preteens (5th thru 7th grade) with RaeAnne Creyer, Beth Frantz, Eric Hantz

Youth (8th thru 12th grade) with Monica Griffith

College Faith Formation with Marie Bachman, Pastor James

Staff – Pam Puskas, Dennis Silfies, Phillip White, Tammy White

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism was celebrated for Jackson John Peddigree on August 2, 2026 **at Good Shepherd UCC.**

Jackson, born March 17, 2025 is the son of Albert Peddigree, III & Haley Storm Stragratanio. His mother and godmother, Star Stragratanio are members of Good Shepherd UCC. Welcome Jackson!!!

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism was celebrated for Willow Jane and Harper Danielle on August 9, 2026 **at Good Shepherd UCC.** Willow & Harper, born January 10, 2023, are the twin daughters of Shelby Z. Repsher. Welcome Willow & Harper!!!

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism was celebrated for Finley Gray Talago on August 9, 2026 **at Good Shepherd UCC.** Finley, born September 12, 2016, is the son of Stephen Michael Talago and the late Amanda Marie Wicklein. Welcome Finley!!!

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism was celebrated for Jayce Ryan Koch on August 9, 2026 **at Good Shepherd UCC.** Finley, born November 2, 2006, is the son of Ryan Patrick & Kyle Lynn “Kylelynn” (Gilbert) Koch. Welcome Jayce!!!

Undue Medical Debt

Wow, what a day Sunday, August 16th was!!! We did it!!! Together and with God's grace!!!! Thank you for all that you did to make it a great gathering. That rain was relentless...but so was your energy and spirit! Thanks for the great food and wonderful friendship and for your incredible hospitality and generosity.

All the money we received on Sunday has been sent to Undue as of August 17th!!! We don't have final numbers yet because donations continue to be made online and sent in. But we are definitely around \$45,000! FYI the raffle brought in about another \$1,800.

It's hopeful that a final report of funds raised will arrive soon with the amount of debt to be erased and where it's going in addition to Lehigh and Northampton counties. Within a few weeks letters will be sent to recipients.

Giving God thanks for you!

Pastor Kris, Union UCC

Mission Outreach for September is Feed My Starving Children (FMSC)

FMSC is a Christian non-profit who is dedicated to seeing every child whole in body and spirit. Meals are developed by food science and nutrition professionals to supplement nutritional needs and reduce problems with malnutrition. FMSC work with food distribution partners that stay with communities for the long-haul, empowering them to move from relief to development.

Mission Team is **collecting individual cereal boxes for Backpack Buddies through October 31**. We will provide you with July/August totals next month.

We collected 413 individual packs of goldfish during May and June. Northern Lehigh School District serves about 100 families each week. Thank you to all who donated.

The Winner of the August Lottery was: Clarence Smith.



See Karen Smith to participate

We need volunteers in 4 areas of worship.

Looking for someone to **set up the Power Point** for **Sunday services**. This can be done remotely. Contact Eric Hantz, Eileen Andrews or Pastor James if you are interested.

Looking for someone to take **Baptismal pictures of the family for the Baptismal certificates**. Please see Pastor James if interested. Printer, camera and flash drive will be provided.

Acolytes and lay readers needed for the fall. Signup sheets are in the Narthex.

Altar Flowers and Bulletins

Thank you to our August Bulletin Sponsor:

August 16-In Memory of son, James Skubish's birthday by
Eileen & Randy Andrews.

August 23-In Honor of daughter, Kristine Rinker's birthday by
Tammy Schaeffer.

August 30- In Memory of Loved Ones by Jean & Gary Fatzinger.

Thank you to our August Flower Sponsor:

August 16-In Honor of Pastor James's birthday by the church staff.

Thank you to our August Holy Grounds Sponsor: Monica Griffith

Thank you to our August Worship Services Special Music Guests:

August 2-Breonna Richardson, Liturgical Dance

August 9-Lydia Weller, soloist

August 23-Dennis Silfies, soloist

Choir Rehearsal begins Thursday, September 3, 2026 at 7 pm.

All are welcome to join.



Church Outdoor Service & Picnic, Sunday, September 20, 2026. Sign-up sheets in the Narthex for casseroles/desserts, adult & child prizes for games, cakes for the cakewalk.

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/Interim Choir Director	Dr. Yezi Chen
Secretary	Eileen Andrews
Treasurer	Tammy White
Financial Secretary	Colleen Shields
Sexton	Matthew Shields

September Worship Leaders

Deacon:	Evan Shoemaker
Head Elder:	Dennis Silfies
Altar Guild:	Mary Storm
Acolytes:	6 TBD
	13 Jaxon Kline
	20 Outdoor Worship
	27 Jaxon Kline
Lay Readers:	6 TBD
	13 Jodi Hourt
	20 TBD
	27 Pam Puskas
Greeters:	6 Mary Storm
	13 Joe & Sharon Conway
	20 Randy & Cindy Parks
	27 Eileen Andrews

Power Point Designers: Dr. Yezi Chen, Eric Hantz

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

Web Designer: Marie Bachman