



# GOOD SHEPHERD UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

3940 Mountain Road, Slatington, PA 18080 610-767-9680

APRIL 21, 2024

### Glance at the Week Ahead at Good Shepherd

#### Office Hours: T W 11 am – 3 pm

|       |          |   |
|-------|----------|---|
| Sun:  | 9:00 am  | Faith Formation   |
|       | 10:00 am | <b>Worship Service</b><br><i>Scrip Orders Delivered</i> |
|       | 11:00 am | Youth Ensemble  |
|       | 11:00 am | Faith Formation Team Meeting                            |
| Tues: | 4:30 pm  | Pizza Order Pick up until 6:30 pm                       |
|       | 7:00 pm  | Choir Practice  |
| Fri:  | 7:00 pm  | AA Back to Basics                                       |
| Sun:  | 9:00 am  | Faith Formation   |
|       | 10:00 am | <b>Worship Service</b><br><i>Scrip Orders Delivered</i> |
|       | 11:00 am | Youth Ensemble  |
|       | 12:00 pm | VALOR Delivered   |
|       | 6:00 pm  | Family Promise at Heidelberg                            |

### First-Time Guests

Welcome to Good Shepherd, an Open and Affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ. We are delighted that you joined us for worship. It is our prayer that you will experience the presence of God and know the love and peace that comes from sharing God's Spirit. If you are looking for a spiritual home, please consider Good Shepherd and speak with Pastor James.

REV. JAMES D. ROBISON, JR. can be contacted at the office (610) 767-9680, his mobile phone (484-571-6083), or via his email address at <jamdarrob@gmail.com>.

### Our Church Staff

|                     |                            |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| Pastor              | Rev. James D. Robison, Jr. |
| Preschool Director  | Karen Weaver               |
| Organist            | Dr. Yezi Chen              |
| Choir Director      | Beth Kutzner               |
| Secretary           | Eileen Andrews             |
| Treasurer           | Tammy White                |
| Financial Secretary | Colleen Shields            |
| Sexton              | Matt Shields               |

### Upcoming Events in the Life of Our Church.

- **Little Caesars Pizza Fundraiser Delivery will be Tuesday, April 23. Pickup between 4:30 pm and 6:30 pm.**
- **Free Women's Retreat, Saturday, April 27** at St. John's UCC, Slatington from 9 am to 4 pm with snacks and lunch provided. Please call church office at 610-767-5554 to make your reservation.
- **Family Promise at Heidelberg April 28 – 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 (8:30 pm-6 am); and/or to assist with set-up & clean-up on April 28 and May 5. If you are interested in helping, please see Ann Hayes or email her at ahayes2395@gmail.com.
- **May 4-Cash & Gift Card Bingo-1:00 pm. Doors open at Noon. Kitchen will be open.**
- **Airing of the Quilts – Saturday, May 11, 2024** (rain or shine) **9:00 am-5:00 pm.** Historic Downtown Palmerton & Palmerton High School Over 500 handmade quilts displayed throughout historic downtown Palmerton. Live entertainment & vendors in the park. If you enjoyed our guest jazz band, 14th & Spring, on Humor Sunday, here is another chance to come out and hear them.
- **Youth ensemble** meets the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sunday of each month after church until 11:45 am. This spring the children will be presenting music during the following church services: **May 12, and June 9.**
- We are **collecting snack cracker packs** to fill 125 bags for Kids packs over the summer break for **Northern Lehigh Food Bank. Due by Sunday, May 19.**
- **Faith Formation will be honoring graduates on June 9, 2024.** Forms are in the Narthex. Forms due by **May 19.**

### Our Worship Leaders Today.

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Head Deacon           | Jim George  |
| Lay Reader            | Rae Anne Creyer   |
| Greeter               | Rae Anne Creyer & Judy Sharon Conway  |
| Altar Guild           | Sharon Conway   |
| Media Production Team | Deb Craig, Riley Fallon, Tracey Gursky, Eric Hantz, Bryan Horninger, and Beth Kutzner |



**Altar Flowers** are to the Honor & Glory of God. The **Bulletins** are to the Honor & Glory of God.

### Good Shepherd Prayer Care List

**Family of...** Helen Werley  
**In Hospice...** Louise Croll  
**Family and Friends needing prayer:** Michael Bossons, Sheri Fallon, Anthony Keen, Mike Passaro, Dennis Silfies, DeeDee Sloane, Ed Zook, Jane Achey, Gail Bell, Jim Craig, Lisa Gilly, Keith Gross, Shawn Kress, Kevin Kroboth, Wayne Kuhns, Faith Mondrick Lauer, Chris Newhard, Connie Renner, Kylie Schneider, Sandy Serfass, Sallie Solt, Mary Storm, Frank Strohl, Rich Taylor, MaryEllen White, Helen Zolnowsky.

**Homebound Members:** Marge Bass, Mary Bilheimer, Peter and Shirley Blynn, Kay Costenbader, Dennis Derr, Donna Fox, Betty Humanick, Richard Kuntz, Carol Schweitzer, and Susan 'Tillie' Waller.

**All the young men and women serving our country:** Colby Adams, Anthony Babb, Sean Bolza, Dalton Housenick, Kira (Kern) Kelsey, Michael Kelsey, Marcus Loch, Rebecca McMichael, Jacob Molchan, Adam Moyer, Jacqueline Moyer, Spencer Perkins, Nicholas Sander, Benjamin Schaffer, and Janel Tracy.

**Prayers for Students in higher education:** Megan Bankes at Glenville State WV, Asa Blynn at Kutztown Univ., Dylan Coffin at Moravian Univ., Carissa Fallon at Penn State Univ., Riley Fallon at Penn State Univ., Ben Griffith at Wilkes Univ., Emma Hope at Kutztown Univ., Evan Horninger at DeSales Univ., Olivia Horninger at Cedar Crest College, Mitchell Hourt at Moravian Univ., Jade Rice at Bloomsburg Univ., Brody Ritter at the University of Delaware, Caden Shields at LCCC, Cameron Shields at Kutztown Univ., Colleen Shields at Strayer Univ., Caleb Sommers at Kutztown Univ., Calista Smoyer at West Virginia Univ., Gabriella Smoyer at Cedar Crest College, Luke Zook at Villanova Univ.

### Offerings Mission Calendar

**Our Mission focus for April is Autism Awareness.** Every year, autism organizations around the world celebrate Autism Awareness with unique fundraising and awareness-raising events. Use #LightItUpBlue to share your experience across social media and help light the world up blue this April. Autism Speaks is dedicated to promoting solutions across the spectrum and throughout the life span.

### Joyful Noise Offering

**Joyful Noise Offering** is an outreach mission of the church that goes to individuals or families in need. Please drop your contributions into the red bucket during the offering.

### Financial Update Offering & (Attendance)

Apr 07-\$1,946.00 E-Giving \$484.47 (85)  
Apr 14-\$1,944.50 E-Giving \$338.20 (76)

Online offering at **Tithe.ly**  
or text **GIVE to 610-615-7657**



### Birthdays

Apr 23-Adam Bishop  
Apr 25-Bob Beblavy  
Apr 25-Emily Heffernan  
Apr 26-Sean Palmer  
Apr 27-Benjamin Griffith  
Apr 27-Michael Smith



### Anniversaries

Apr 21-Drew & Mary-Beth (Kern) Fatzinger, Jr.  
Apr 22-Dwayne & Janet (Matthews) Kern  
Apr 24-Jeff & Linda (Bachman) Coffin  
Apr 25-Michael & Kayla (Creed) Sander

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**APRIL 21, 2024 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

Jubilate

In the German Reformed tradition, each Sunday of Easter takes its name in Latin from the first few words of the introit prayer. The introit for the fourth Sunday of Easter is “Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands; sing forth the honor of his Name; make his praise glorious.” Jubilate loosely translated means ‘rejoice.’

NOTE: People’s responses in **bold**; \* rise in body, mind, or spirit

Gathering for God's WORD

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE** ~ *Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling*

**\* SOLEMN DECLARATION**

Our service is in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

We gather from various places to praise God. **Blessing and glory be to our God.** We gather once more to shout “Alleluia!” Salvation belongs to the Holy One.

**Wisdom and thanksgiving be to our God.**

We gather to worship day and night. The One who guides us to the springs of life.

**Honor and power be to our God. Amen.**

**\* PROCESSIONAL HYMN** ~ *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee*

**#602**

Preparing Our Hearts for God's WORD

**\* CALL TO CONFESSION**

Let us humble ourselves before God, confessing our faults and seeking God’s forgiveness.

**\* CONFESSION**

We seek and find You in Creation, O God, in the world You have made and the people You have called. Your vulnerable, powerful Lamb is our Shepherd and guide, leading us to share the shelter of Your abundant life.

Let us recognize You here in the beauty of this morning and in its challenge; may the Risen One, Your Shepherd-Lamb, lead us to act for Your justice and peace, so that all may drink from Your springs of the waters of life, and find their tears of sorrow and pain wiped away. In the name of the Risen One we pray. Amen.

**\* ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Receive God's mercy; your sins are forgiven, go and live in God's peace. **Amen!**

**\* THE APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried, he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

**CHILDREN'S CHAT**

**BLESSINGS FOR JOYS AND/OR CONCERNS**

Hearing God's WORD

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**Grant us wisdom, Almighty God, as we delve into Your WORD. Amen!**

**A READING** from the Gospel of John 10:11-18 [NRSV]

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

**RESPONSE**

The GOSPEL of the Lord. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Reflecting on God's WORD

**HOMILY ~ Enfolded by Love**

**SPECIAL MUSIC ~ *Morning Has Broken***

**Chancel Choir**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Responding to God's WORD

**INVITATION TO SHARING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

Join in sharing our blessings to nurture our community here at Good Shepherd and honor God's provision around the world. **Amen.**

**OFFERTORY ~ *Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus***

**\* DOXOLOGY**

**#47**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Lord, receive our gifts by Your grace. May they bring hope, healing, and joy to those touched by Your love through our service within our community and abroad. This we ask in Jesus' name. Amen!**

**\* HYMN ~ *God, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing***

**#439**

Living God's WORD

**\* THE COMMISSION, BENEDICTION, AND THREE-FOLD AMEN**

**#312**

**POSTLUDE ~ *I Love to Tell the Story***

Liturgy by Pastor James based on ChatGPT 3.5

CCLI#1783708

Cash & May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
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 0153R23

**Tickets Sold in Advance or at the Door**

[www.GoodShepherdUCCSlatington.org](http://www.GoodShepherdUCCSlatington.org)

[www.facebook.com/GSUCC.Slatington](http://www.facebook.com/GSUCC.Slatington)



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**Kids Snack Cracker  
Packs for Northern  
Lehigh Food Bank  
Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>**