



GOOD SHEPHERD UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

AUGUST 30, 2026

Glance at the Week Ahead at Good Shepherd

Office Hours: TBD	
Sun:	10:00 am Sunday Worship
	12:00 pm VALOR Dinner Delivered
Fri:	7:00 pm AA Back to Basics
Sun:	10:00 am Sunday Worship
	Labor Day Communion

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. 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	Dr. Yezi Chen
Secretary	Eileen Andrews
Treasurer	Tammy White
Financial Secretary	Colleen Shields
Sexton	Matt Shields
Filming Disclosure: Our services are filmed and recorded for online viewers. As worshipers' faces may be captured, your entry into the Sanctuary constitutes your consent to be photographed, filmed and/or otherwise recorded for streaming or social purposes.	

Mission Calendar for August is Habitat for Humanity of the Lehigh Valley

Their mission is to provide hardworking families with simple, decent affordable housing. They work in partnership with families to help them secure a better place to live and raise their families.

Joyful Noise

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

Update Offering & (Attendance)

Aug 02-\$1,532.40 E-Giving \$201.05 (93)
Aug 09-\$1,750.00 E-Giving \$757.68 (100)
Aug 16-\$2,940.00 E-Giving \$347.34 (60)
Aug 23-\$1,883.70 E-Giving \$99.25 (52)

Online offering at [Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly)
or text GIVE to 610-615-7657



We are now streaming on both Facebook and YouTube, both of which have icons on the Good Shepherd United Church of Christ website. If you've had trouble with the streaming volume not being loud enough on Facebook, click on the YouTube link and see if that improves it.

Upcoming Events in the Life of Our Church

- Choir Rehearsals begin Thursday, September 3 at 7 pm. All are welcome to join!
- There will be a Fundraising Meeting, Sunday, September 13 following the church service to discuss upcoming events.
- Fill out the College Student Information sheet in the Narthex to include your college student on our prayer list this fall.
- Choir Rehearsal begins Thursday, September 3, 2026. All are welcome to join.
- We are collecting individual cereal boxes for Backpack Buddies through October 31.. Thank you all for your donations. Northern Lehigh School District serves about 100 families each week.
- Altar Guild is asking for empty plastic Blue Bunny ice cream containers for taking home Altar Flowers.
- We are looking for sponsors for Bulletins, flowers and Holy Grounds refreshments. Please sign up on the calendar on the bulletin board.
- Looking for someone to take Baptismal pictures of the family for Baptismal certificates.
- Mini Golf at Bear Rock Junction has been rescheduled for Sunday, September, September 13 at noon. There will be pizza after church in Fellowship Hall before heading out to the golf course.
- We are collecting individual cans of pasta (pull tab top) for Backpack Buddies through August 31. We collected 413 individual packages of goldfish in May & June. Thank you all for your donations.
- Outdoor Worship & Picnic, Sunday, September 20, 2026. Sign-up sheets in the Narthex for casseroles & desserts, adult & children prizes for games, and to donate a cake for the cake walk.
- Walk-In Basket Social Saturday, October 3, 2026. Sign-up sheets in the Narthex for baskets, donations to make baskets, baked goods, and/or help the day of the social.
- \$5 Boscov's Shopping Passes available in the Narthex for online/ in store shopping Wed. October 21.
- Looking for volunteers to mow grass for the weeks of August 30, September 20, September 27, and the month of October. Mowers and gas are provided by the church. Sign up in the Narthex.

Good Shepherd Prayer Care List

Family of...Ben Remaley

In Hospice...Barbara Cannon

Family and Friends needing prayer: Harriet Schmon, Dwayne Henritz, Tania Hewitt, Barbara Beltz, Deb Derhammer, Jean Fatzinger, Jennifer Frohnheiser, Lee Haas, Diane Hardey, Brett Hunsicker, Bruce Kralik, Don Kutzner, Jameson & Krissy Scott, Megane Streisel, Carol Ziegenfuss, Tom Alcaro, Karen Anthony, Gail Bell, Marc Benninger, Howard Bilheimer, Lori Clay, Doug Farber, Donna Fox, Steve George, Barbara Hower, Gary Johannes, Hayden Keller, Laurie, Chris Oertner, Randy Parks, Ty Sander, Gary Schneck, Barry Soldridge, Donna Tully, Jenn Wentz, John Zellner

Homebound Members: Marge Bass, Mary Bilheimer, Shirley Blynn, Kay Costenbader, Dennis Derr, Donna Fox, Judy Mack, Carol Schweitzer, and 'Tillie' Waller.

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

GOOD SHEPHERD UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Our Worship Leaders Today.

Acolyte	Jaxon Kline
Head Deacon	Joe Conway
Lay Reader	Marie Bachman
Greeters	Kevin & Tina Minnich
Altar Guild	Elizabeth Alcaro & Nancy Leitgeb
Media Team	Marie Bachman, Dr. Yezi Chen, Riley Fallon, Tracey Gursky, Eric Hantz and Bryan Horninger

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



Birthdays

Aug 30-Cameron Shields
Aug 31-Brody Ritter
Sep 01-Nelson Frantz
Sep 01-Emersyn Rex
Sep 02-Jeff Coffin
Sep 02-Barbara DeLong
Sep 02-Carol Schweitzer
Sep 03-Giovanni Fricchione
Sep 03-Marilyn Rice
Sep 03-Evan Shoemaker
Sep 03-Alana Smoyer
Sep 04-Heather Kremposky
Sep 04-Madeline Kremposky
Sep 04-Jamie Rex
Sep 05-Robbie Schramel, Jr.



Anniversaries

Sep 02-Jeff & Michelle (Dieffenderfer) Hewitt
Sep 04-Ryan & Alana (Zellner) Smoyer



SUNDAY, AUGUST 30, 2026
14TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

ORDER OF WORSHIP

AUGUST 30, 2026 - FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

LEHIGH VALLEY PRIDE

“The highest form of wisdom is kindness.” ~ Theodore Isaac Rubin

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

Gathering for God's WORD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE ~ *In The Garden*

* **SOLEMN DECLARATION**

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

* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Love one another with genuine affection. **We come seeking to live lives shaped by compassion and grace.**

Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. **We gather to be renewed by God’s Spirit.**

Welcome one another as God has welcomed us. **We celebrate the diversity of God’s beloved children.**

Let us worship the One whose love knows no boundaries. **We come with open hearts to praise God and serve our neighbors.**

* **HYMN ~ *He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought!***

#545

* **OPENING PRAYER FOR OPEN & AFFIRMING SUNDAY/LEHIGH VALLEY PRIDE**

Today, as our wider community celebrates Lehigh Valley Pride, we give thanks for the beautiful diversity of God's creation. As an Open and Affirming congregation, we proclaim that people of every sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, race, age, ability,

family structure, economic circumstance, and background are beloved by God and welcome in the full life and ministry of the church.

In a world that often divides and excludes, we seek to embody the Spirit-led love described by Paul: genuine love, mutual respect, hospitality, and peace. We celebrate that each person is created in the image of God, and we rejoice in the gifts every person brings to the community of faith. May our worship today strengthen our commitment to building a church and a world where all can live authentically, safely, and joyfully as God's beloved children. Amen.

PRAISE VERSICLE ~ *Glory Be to the Father

#35

Celebrating God's WORD in Our Midst

CONVERSATION WITH OUR YOUNGSTERS

BLESSINGS FOR JOYS AND/OR CONCERNS

Hearing God's WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Spirit of Truth and Love, open Your WORD so we might be transformed into people who embody Christ's love in the world. Amen!

A READING from Paul's Letter to the Romans 12:9-21 [NRSVUE]

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do

not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord.” Instead, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

RESPONSE

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

Reflecting on God's WORD

HOMILY ~ Spirit-Led Living

HYMN ~ *I Would Be True*

#608

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 GENEROSITY

In Romans, Paul calls the church to contribute to the needs of the saints and extend hospitality to strangers. Our gifts today are one way we participate in that Spirit-led life. **As we share what we have received, we help create communities where compassion flourishes, justice grows, and all people know they are welcomed, valued, and loved. Amen.**

OFFERTORY ~ *God Will Take Care of You*

*** 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**

Generous God, receive these gifts and bless them for Your purposes. Use them to strengthen ministries of welcome, compassion, justice, and hope. May they help build communities where all people ~ including those who have too often been excluded or overlooked ~ experience the embrace of Your love. Empower us to live as Spirit-led people, overcoming evil with good and bearing witness to Your inclusive grace. In the Spirit of Christ, we pray. Amen!

*** HYMN** ~ *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*

#560

Living God's WORD

*** THE COMMISSION, BENEDICTION, AND THREE-FOLD
AMEN #312**

POSTLUDE ~ *I See the Morning Breakin'*

**OUR WORSHIP TOGETHER HAS ENDED;
OUR SERVICE TO OTHERS BEGINS**

Liturgy by Pastor James based on ChatGPT 3.5

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