



GOOD SHEPHERD UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

JULY 5, 2026

Glance at the Week Ahead at Good Shepherd

Office Hours: T W 8:00 am – 1:00 pm
 TH 8:00 am – 12:00 pm

Sun: 10:00 am **Sunday Worship**
God and Country Communion
 11:15 am Confirmation Session 9

Mon: 9:00 am Confirmation Session 10

Tues: 11:15 am Confirmation Session 11

Wed: 11:15 am Confirmation Session 12

Thurs: 11:15 am Confirmation Session 13

Fri: 11:15 am Confirmation Session 14
 7:00 pm AA Back to Basics

Sun: 10:00 am **Sunday Worship**
Scrip Orders Due

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	Beth Kutzner
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 July is School of Theology at Moravian University (formerly Lancaster Theological Seminary)

They are an ecumenical seminary that is known for academic excellence, celebration of differences across Christian traditions, and creative engagement on issues of importance to our world. www.moravian.edu/school-theology

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)

June 07-\$2,918.00 E-Giving \$742.34 (94)

June 14-\$2,222.00 E-Giving \$218.11 (107)

June 21-\$1,733.00 E-Giving \$483.83 (54)

June 28-\$2,756.00 E-Giving \$226.61 (82)

Online offering at [Tithe.ly](https://www.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.

- **VBS Theme Into the Wilderness with God at Camp Good Shepherd, July 13-17th 6-8pm** Campout, July 18-19th with hot dog/hamburger dinner and light breakfast before church on the 19th Closing: during church service on the 19th at 10am. Registration forms are available to sign up children 3 and up. See Amanda Smith for registration forms.
- Faith Formation Team is collecting **items needed** for VBS. Please take a card from the Narthex if you wish to donate.
- 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. Northern Lehigh School District serves about 100 families each week.
- We are **looking for sponsors** for **Bulletins, flowers** and **Holy Grounds refreshments**. Please sign up on the calendar on the bulletin board.
- **Looking for volunteers to mow grass**. Mowers and gas for them are provided by the church. Sign up in the Narthex.
- **Looking for office volunteers over the summer** who would be able and willing to scan a large number of photos and put them on a flash drive as a way to preserve our congregation's history. Please contact Pastor James or Eileen Andrews if you would like to help.

Good Shepherd Prayer Care List

Families of... Jeffrey Bilheimer, Beaty Christoff

Family and Friends needing prayer: Bruce Kralik, Tina Minnich, Eddie Smith, Deb Derhammer, Jennifer Frohnheiser, Lee Haas, Diane Hardey, Brett Hunsicker, Don Kutzner, Barry Silfies, Carol Ziegenfus, Tom Alcaro, Karen Anthony, Gail Bell, Doug Farber, Donna Fox, Steve George, Barbara Hower, Gary Johannes, Hayden Keller, Laurie, Chris Oertner, Randy Parks, Ty Sander, Gary Schneck, 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, Benjamin Schaffer, and Janel Tracy.

Today we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Baptism for **Charlotte Anin Carbin**, born on November 17, 2024. She is the daughter of Darrin & Angela (Long) Carbin. Her grandparents are Randy & Cindy (Passaro) Long Parks and AdriAnne (Voss) Carbin. The water used for the baptism is from the Jordan River in the Holy Land. The animal placed on the Baptismal Banner marks Charlotte's entrance on our cradle roll as the beginning of her faith formation process. The Baptismal Candle is lit to remind us that Jesus Christ is our light and guide on the path of faith.

GOOD SHEPHERD UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Our Worship Leaders Today.

Acolyte	Jaxon Kline
Head Deacon	Mary Storm
Head Elder	Dennis Silfies
Lay Reader	RaeAnne Creyer
Greeters	RaeAnne Creyer & Wynn
Altar Guild	Elizabeth Alcaro & Nancy Leitgeb
Media Team	Marie Bachman, Deb Craig, Riley Fallon, Tracey Gursky, Eric Hantz, Bryan Horninger, Evan Horninger, and Beth Kutzner

Altar Flowers are to the Glory of God and in Honor of the 250th birthday of our country by Pastor James.
Bulletins are to the Honor and Glory of God.



Birthdays

Jul 07-Michael Banks
Jul 07-Trevor Rex
Jul 08-Jessica Redline
Jul 08-Raelyn Rinker
Jul 09-Julie Solt
Jul 09-Brandi Palmer
Jul 09-Janice Sillman
Jul 09-Tammy White
Jul 10-Dane Badman
Jul 10-Yezi Chen
Jul 10-Thomas Hourt
Jul 11-Chastity Corvino
Jul 11-Madison Sommers



Anniversaries

Jul 7-Michael Smith & Mark Miller
Jul 7-Greg & Katie (White) Koneschusk

God, Family,
COUNTRY

SUNDAY, JULY 5, 2026
6TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

ORDER OF WORSHIP
JULY 5, 2026 - SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
GOD AND COUNTRY

“The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.”

~ Mahatma Gandhi

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

Gathering for God's WORD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE ~ *America the Beautiful*

*** SOLEMN DECLARATION**

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

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Come, all who are weary and carrying heavy burdens. **We come seeking rest, renewal, and hope.**

Come, all who long for wisdom amid the noise and divisions of the world. **We come to listen for the voice of Christ.**

On this day, we remember the gift and responsibility of freedom, and we gather at Christ’s table where all are welcomed. **We come with gratitude for those who came before us and hope for generations yet to come.**

Christ says, “Come to me...and I will give you rest.” **Let us worship the God whose mercy renews us and whose love sets us free.**

*** HYMN** ~ *This Is My Song*

#722

*** OPENING PRAYER**

Holy One, You call us from places of exhaustion, worry, and uncertainty, inviting us into Your peace. As we gather in worship, remind us that true freedom is found not in power alone, but in justice, compassion, humility, and love. On this day as we remember the birth of our country and reflect on 250 years of history, help us celebrate with gratitude while also seeking wisdom for the work still before us. Teach us to be people who carry one another’s burdens and strive for a more just and hopeful world. As we come to Christ’s table today, renew us through community, grace, and the promise that none of us journey alone. Prepare our hearts for worship and for faithful living. Amen.

Celebrating God's WORD in Our Midst

*** PRAISE VERSICLE** ~ *Glory to God*

#34

BAPTISM OF CHARLOTTE ANIN CARBIN

Exhortation

Promise of the Congregation

Do you who witness this sacrament promise your love, support and care to the one about to be baptized?

We promise our love, support and care. As we baptize you with water, there is grace upon your life and we promise to help you realize you are loved by God and we love you, too. And we promise through everything; we will be here for you. Amen.

Blessing of the Water

Sacrament of Baptism

BAPTISMAL HYMN ~ *Jesus Loves Me This I Know*

#113

Lighting of Baptismal Candle and Placing of Name on Baptismal Banner

Presentation at the Altar and Prayer

Hearing God's WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, may Your Living WORD challenge us where we need courage, comfort us where we need healing, and guide us in wisdom, mercy, and peace. Amen.

A READING from the Gospel of Matthew 11:28-30 [NRSVUE]

“Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

RESPONSE

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

Reflecting on God's WORD

HOMILY ~ Chosen Journeys

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

Jesus invites the weary to find rest and reminds us that God's wisdom is revealed through lives of compassion and care. **As we celebrate the blessings of community, freedom, and Christ's open table, let us share our gifts generously so others may also experience hope, welcome, and support. Amen.**

OFFERTORY ~ *I Will Rise*

* 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 those who offer them. May what is shared today become rest for the weary, hope for the discouraged, nourishment for the hungry, and welcome for those seeking belonging. As we remember the generations who shaped our nation and gather at Christ's table of grace, inspire us to use these offerings in ways that build compassion and justice in our community for generations to come. Amen.

Receiving God's WORD

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

[We will celebrate Holy Communion in the pews. Children are invited forward for their blessing during the bread distribution. The bread is gluten-free, and the cups are filled with red wine and white grape juice. If communing, please fill out the communion card found in the pew racks and place it in the offering plate.]

INVITATION TO CHRIST'S TABLE

Psalmist and sovereign, sinner and saint, mighty and humble: such was Your servant David, O God. **He did great things**, and he also failed. **He sought the good of the nation** and fought bitter and harsh wars. **He tried to model love and compassion** yet took advantage of Bathsheba and had her husband killed. **We are like David in many ways, O God. We know what You call us to do and sometimes we do it. At other times our own agendas get in the way.**

Yet amid all that, You say...

Come, you who want community; know that you are welcome here. **Amen!**

COMMUNION PRAYER

Creator God ... this bread and cup. **May this holy meal remind us that You feed us always and everywhere with grace abundant and love without end. Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

One God, holy and good... and gave You thanks, broke it, and shared it among them.

One loaf, broken for all.

Later Jesus took a cup, again giving You thanks, and shared it with them.

One cup, shared for all.

Jesus said this bread is my body; this fruit of the vine is my blood ~ whenever you share in this meal ~ remember me.

One God, remembered by all.

Bless us who have gathered here out of love for You and strengthen us by these gifts to serve You in the world and share Your love with everyone we meet. **Amen.**

EPICLESIS

Come, Holy Spirit, come... and in all for whom Christ died. **Amen.**

BREAKING BREAD AND POURING WINE

Through the broken bread, **we participate in the body of Christ.**

Through the cup of blessing, **we share in the new life Christ gives.**

HYMN ~ *Agnus Dei* ~ (sung in unison)

O Christ Thou Lamb of God who takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ Thou Lamb of God who takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ Thou Lamb of God who takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all things are ready. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Gracious God, we thank You for the gift of Jesus Christ and for the privilege of gathering at Your Table, where Your Spirit makes the simple gifts of bread and cup holy. Strengthened by the Bread of Life, may we open the gates of justice for all oppressed by fear and hate. Filled with the Cup of Grace, may we dry the tears of those who weep in loneliness and grief. This we pray in Christ. Amen

* HYMN ~ *O Beautiful for Spacious Skies*

#720

Living God's WORD

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

POSTLUDE ~ *For Each Day of Life, We Thank You*

Liturgy by Pastor James based on ChatGPT 3.5

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