



# GOOD SHEPHERD UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

3940 Mountain Road, Slatington, PA 18080

610-767-9680

JULY 6, 2025

## Glance at the Week Ahead at Good Shepherd

Office Hours: T W 8:00 am – 1:00 pm

TH 8:00 am – Noon

Sun: 10:00 am **Sunday Worship**  
Wed: 6:30 pm Financial Peace University  
Fri: 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. 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](mailto: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 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.lancasterseminary.edu](http://www.lancasterseminary.edu)

## 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 red bucket during the offering.

## Update Offering & (Attendance)

Jun 01-\$1,812.00 E-Giving \$191.44 (81)  
Jun 08-\$2,115.00 E-Giving \$607.76 (104)  
Jun 15-\$1,725.00 E-Giving \$343.87 (66)  
Jun 22-\$2,411.00 E-Giving \$129.64 (81)  
Jun 29-\$1,062.00 E-Giving \$366.98 (52)

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. We've tested it and believe it is an improvement." Thank you for your patience.  
Sincerely, Good Shepherd Media Team."

## Upcoming Events in the Life of Our Church.

- **Financial Peace University, Wednesday's 6:30-8 pm** taught by Monica Griffith again this summer. Dates are June 11,18,25, July 2,9,23,30, August 6, 13. No class on Wednesday, July 16. See Monica Griffith for more information. In-Person Class Registration: <https://www.financialpeace.com/app/classes/031621> Virtual Class Registration: <https://www.financialpeace.com/app/classes/722606> **It's not too late to register.**
- **VBS will be Monday, July 14 through Sunday, July 20.** To register, see Amanda Smith.
- We are **collecting canned spaghetti with pull top tabs** for **Backpack Buddies through August 31.** Northern Lehigh School District serves about 100 families each week. This program continues through the summer. We collected 179 individual bags of goldfish in May & June. Thank you all.
- Looking for **volunteers to mow the lawn.** Please sign up in the Narthex for the week you would like to volunteer.
- **Summer Breakfast Bunch at St. John's Lutheran Church,** Slatington will provide breakfast and a bag lunch **Monday through Friday from 8:30 – 10 am.** The program will run until **August 22** for **ages 2 – 17.** **Volunteers and monetary donations or gift cards to local grocery stores are needed.** Contact St. John's Lutheran Church at 610-767-6361 or email them at [stjohnslatington@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnslatington@gmail.com).
- **Looking for additional office volunteers** who have organizational skills and enjoy history. Also looking for someone who is able and willing to identify people in old photos. Please contact Pastor James or Eileen Andrews if you would like to help.
- **Condolences for the family of Vivian Neff** can be sent to Kathy Schellhamer Catoe at 364 Woodland Circle, Lugoff, SC 29078. There are slips of paper in the Narthex with her address on it for you to take.

## Good Shepherd Prayer Care List

**Family of...** Vivian Neff

**In Hospice...** Rick Keller

**Family and Friends needing prayer:** Ann & John Groller, Barry Silfies, Sherry Bishop, Deb Craig, Randy Dailey, Lee Haas, Mitchell Hourt, Sandy Keller, Frank Soldridge, Barbara Cannon, Chastity Corvino, Doug Farber, Frank Hart, Tracy Haydt, Barbara Hower, Gary Johannes, Hayden Keller, Susan Lukon, Chris Oertner, Dennis Raver, Rich Remaley, Gary Schneck, Frank Strohl, Jenn Wentz, John Zellner, Helen Zolnowsky

*Purged at beginning of each month.*

*Renews are welcomed*

**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.

*Our Worship Leaders Today.*

Special Music  
Acolyte  
Head Elder  
Head Deacon  
Lay Reader  
Greeters  
Altar Guild  
Media Team

Pam Puskas  
Kendall Frantz  
Dennis Silfies  
Mary Storm  
Carrie Block  
Alice Kegel  
Julie Solt

Marie Bachman, Deb Craig, Riley Fallon, Tracey Gursky,  
Eric Hantz, Bryan Horninger, Evan Horninger, and Beth Kutzner

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



***Birthdays***

Jul 07-Michael Bankes  
Jul 07-Graham Hantz  
Jul 07-Lisa Gilly  
Jul 07-Trevor Rex  
Jul 08-Jessica Redline  
Jul 08-Raelyn Rinker  
Jul 08-Julie Solt  
Jul 09-Brandi Palmer  
Jul 09-Janice Silliman  
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 07-Michael Smith & Mark Miller  
Jul 07-Greg & Katie (White) Koneschusky  
Jul 10-Richard & Linda (Snyder) Schock

## GOOD SHEPHERD UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



# Naaman is Healed

**SUNDAY, JULY 6, 2025**  
**4TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**GOD AND COUNTRY COMMUNION**

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**JULY 6, 2025 - FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**GOD AND COUNTRY COMMUNION**  
Let your light shine before others. ~ Matthew 5:16

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

Gathering for God's WORD

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE** ~ *We Gather Together*

**\* SOLEMN DECLARATION**

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

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

Come, all who are weary from the heat and the burden of the world. **We come seeking the cool waters of God's peace.**

Come, all who rejoice in sunshine and summer days. **We come to give thanks for creation's beauty and God's faithfulness.**

In this season of growth and rest, let us worship the One who sustains us. **We gather in joy, with open hearts, to worship God together. Amen.**

**\* HYMN** ~ *O Beautiful for Spacious Skies*

#720

Preparing Our Hearts for God's WORD

**\* OPENING PRAYER**

**Gracious God, in the warmth of summer, we are reminded of Your light that never fades. Thank You for long days and moments of stillness, for gardens blooming, and the song of birds. As we gather today, still our hearts and renew our spirits. Let this be a time of rest in Your presence and renewal through Your WORD. May we leave here refreshed, rooted in Your love, and ready to shine with Your grace. Amen.**

**CHILDREN'S CHAT**

**BLESSINGS FOR JOYS AND/OR CONCERNS**

Hearing God's WORD

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**Tune our hearts, O God, that we might sing Your praise as we become reflections of Your love and mercy through the power of Your WORD. Amen!**

**A READING** from the Book of 2 Kings 5:9-14 [NRSV]

Naaman came with his horses and chariot and stopped at the door of Elisha's house. Elisha sent him the message: "Go and wash seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will heal, and you will be clean."

But Naaman went away angry, saying, "I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand there to call on the name of the LORD his God, and would move his hand over the place, and thus cure the leprous spot.

Are not the rivers of Damascus, the Abana and the Pharpar, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be cleansed?" With this, he turned about in anger and left. But his servants came up and reasoned with him: "My father, if the prophet told you to do something extraordinary, would you not do it? All the more since he told you, 'Wash, and be clean'?" So Naaman went down and plunged into the Jordan seven times, according to the word of the man of God. His flesh became again like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.

**RESPONSE**

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

Reflecting on God's WORD

**HOMILY ~ Surprising Prophets**

**SPECIAL MUSIC ~ *God Bless America***

Pam Puskas

**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**

As the earth yields its fruit in this season, **so too we are invited to offer the fruits of our lives to God.** Let us give with joy and generosity, **trusting that what we offer ~ whether great or small ~ will be used by God to nourish and bless. Amen.**

**OFFERTORY ~ *My Faith, It is an Oaken Staff***

**\* 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

**Almighty God, by Your grace, accept the fruit of our labor and the offering of our lives as we carry out the ministry of our risen Lord who lives and reigns with You forever. 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, the feast is ready; the time of celebration is at hand, for I will never forsake you but always hold you close."

Come, you who are hungry for God's love.

Come, you who are yearning for Christ's presence.

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... We remember how Jesus took bread, 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. Bless this bread and bless this fruit of the vine. Bless all of us in our eating and drinking at this table that our eyes may be opened, and we may recognize the risen Christ in our midst, in each other, 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 and praise 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. Gather us again with all Your children around the Table of Joy, that we may forever sing Your praise. Amen**

#### \* HYMN ~ *My Country, 'Tis of Thee*

**#721**

#### Living God's WORD

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

**#312**

Go now into the warmth of the sun and the rhythm of summer days. May you rest deeply, grow quietly, and serve boldly. Carry the peace of Christ in your heart, the light of God in your spirit, and the refreshing wind of the Holy Spirit in your steps. **We go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Thanks be to God! Amen!**

#### POSTLUDE ~ *O Worship the King*

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