



GOOD SHEPHERD UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

MARCH 17, 2024

Glance at the Week Ahead at Good Shepherd

Office Hours: T 11 am – 3 pm; W 1 pm – 6 pm		
Sun:	9:00 am	Faith Formation
	10:00 am	Worship Service <i>Mortgage Special Offering</i> <i>Scrip Orders Delivered</i>
Wed:	11:00 am	Youth Ensemble
	6:30 pm	Midweek Lenten Service
Fri:	7:30 pm	Choir Practice
	7:00 pm	AA Back to Basics
Sat:	9:00 am	Property Committee Meeting
	9:30 am	Indoor Cleanup
Sun:	9:00 am	Faith Formation
	9:45 am	Procession with Donkey
	10:00 am	Worship Service/Palm Sunday <i>Cooked eggs due for Egg Hunt</i>
	11:00 am	Youth Ensemble
	11:00 am	Choir rehearsal with brass and organ until 1:00 pm
	12:00 pm	VALOR Dinner Delivered

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.

- **Indoor Cleanup, Saturday, March 23 at 9:30 am.** Signup sheet in the Narthex.
- **Lenten Gathering –March 20 at 6:30 pm** in Fellowship Hall with a Soup and Salad dinner followed by a play entitled *Eyewitness, A Lenten Drama Series*.
- There will be a **choir rehearsal with brass and organ on March 24 following church, until 1:00 pm.**
- **Faith Formation** is requesting **donations of hard-boiled eggs, plastic eggs, and prizes** for the **Annual Easter Egg Hunt on March 30.** Please see Pam and **have eggs cooked and here by Sunday, March 24.** Sign-up sheets in the Narthex.
- **Holy Humor/Jazz Worship Service** on April 7 at 10:00 am.
- **Little Caesars Pizza Fundraiser orders due Sunday, April 7.** Delivery will be the week of April 22. Order forms are in the Narthex.
- **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: **April 14, May 12, and June 9.**
- **Gone Fishin’ Night is Saturday, April 20.** Tickets are for sale in the Narthex.
- **Flower and Bulletin Sponsor Calendar** in the Narthex.
- **Open Preschool enrollment for 2024 began March 1** for all children 3 and 4 years old.

Snow, Ice, Winter Emergency Cancellations

check out TV Channel 69 or Radio Station WAEB 790am, our website and Facebook sites. Email or Texts.

Our Worship Leaders Today.

Head Deacon	Joe Conway
Lay Reader	Marie Bachman
Greeter	Janice Silliman & Marilyn Rice
Altar Guild	Julie Solt
Media Production Team	Deb Craig, Riley Fallon, Tracey Gursky, Eric Hantz, Bryan Horninger, Evan Horninger and Beth Kutzner



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

Good Shepherd Prayer Care List

Families of... Tony Patrick, Marilyn Sowden
In Hospice Care... Louise Croll
Family and Friends needing prayer : Steph Hamby, Daniel Howard, Janice Schwartz, Connie Beblavy, Sherry Bishop, Lucy Daddona, Tina Fetchko, Gayle, Lee Haas, Sue Jones, Boden Kearney, Heather Moyer, Darlene Nothstein, Allen Pickwick, Allison Pickwick, Catherine Shellhammer, Karen Smith, Charlotte Solt, Frank Strohl, Jane Achey, Gail Bell, Jim Craig, Rob Davis, Doug Farber, 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, Rich Taylor, MaryEllen White, Helen Zolnowsky.

Homebound Members: Marge Bass, Mary Bilheimer, Kay Costenbader, Dennis Derr, Betty Humanick, Richard Kuntz, 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 **March is Feed My Starving Children (FMSC).** FMSC believes hope starts with food. As a Christian nonprofit, they are dedicated to seeing every child whole in body and spirit. FMSC works with food distribution partners that stay with communities for the long haul, empowering them to move from relief to development. FMSC meals are developed by food science and nutrition professionals to supplement nutritional needs and reduce problems with malnutrition.

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)

Mar 03-\$3,487.00 E-Giving \$295.66 (86)
Mar 06-\$126.00 (37)
Mar 10-\$2,866.00 E-Giving \$484.58 (73)
Mar 13-\$99.00 (21)

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



Birthdays

Mar 17-Wylan Redline
Mar 18-Linda Henninger
Mar 18-Megann Rodrigues
Mar 19-Gary Fritzingner
Mar 21-Mackenzie Ferber
Mar 21-Sandy Hantz
Mar 21-Dwayne Kern
Mar 22-Linda Coffin
Mar 23-Jean Fatzinger
Mar 23-Susan “Tilly” Waller



Anniversaries

Mar 19-David & Emily (Silfies) McGinnis
Mar 21-James & Eileen (Walters) George

ORDER OF WORSHIP
MARCH 17, 2024 - FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT
KEEP THE FAITH, SHARE THE LOVE
JUDICA ~ To Judge or Declare

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

Gathering for God's WORD

PRELUDE ~ *Forever Reign*

*** SOLEMN DECLARATION**

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

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

As Lent continues to unfold, let us be rooted in the faith that sustains us.

Our faith grows strong, nurtured by the boundless love of God.

United, let us share God's love, a testimony of grace and peace. **Amen.**

*** PROCESSIONAL HYMN ~ *Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended* #210**

*** SERVICE OF THE LENTEN CROSS ~ INRI Sign**

"Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." - John 19:19

Again, the kingship of Jesus Christ is proclaimed, but this time by the authorities of the Roman Empire. Pontius Pilate had a sign placed above Jesus Christ that stated Jesus Nazarene Rex Iudeum ~ "INRI" Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews.

*** OPENING PRAYER**

Merciful God, as we reflect on Your sacrifice during Lent, deepen our faith and commitment to Your teachings. May our lives be a testament to the love we have received and may we, in turn, share that love with others, fostering a spirit of compassion and generosity. Amen.

Preparing Our Hearts for God's WORD

*** TIME OF CONFESSION**

In this time of confession, this time of opening our hearts, let us remember that God is merciful and eager to offer grace and love. Let us pray, first in silence.

Gracious God, source of all life, Lord of mercy and grace, hear our prayer. We come before You in need of healing: the healing of our bodies and souls, the healing of our relationships, the healing of our pride and fear and apathy. We know that with You, nothing is impossible, not even our healing, not even the restoration of the whole world. We pray You will help us, that You will heal our

world so that we will be freed to serve, and love, and dream, and be as Christ calls us. Amen!

*** LENTEN CONFSSIONAL CREED**

I confess my need of God for all that I am and all that I have.

I confess my need of Jesus Christ for healing in relationships and guidance in my life that I might be a worthy steward of all that has been entrusted to me.

I confess my need of the Holy Spirit to kindle the Divine spark in my heart that draws me closer to the Holy so I may respond in love to all.

CHILDREN’S TIME AND BLESSINGS

Hearing God's WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O Lord, we wait for You, and in Your WORD we trust. By the power of Your Spirit, set our hearts and minds on the source of life and peace: Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen!

A READING from Jeremiah 31:31-34 [NRSV]

The days are surely coming, says the LORD., when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD.: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD.,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD.; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

RESPONSE

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

Reflecting on God's WORD

HOMILY ~ Deep in our Hearts

SPECIAL MUSIC ~ *God is Present, God is Here*

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

With hearts full of faith and hands guided by love, we gather our offerings to foster a community of grace and generosity. Amen.

OFFERTORY ~ *Fairest Lord 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**

Holy God, giver of life, we thank You for raising us up and joining us together as one people, Your people, flesh and bone in the body of Christ. As You have delivered us from death, use our lives to proclaim the good news of new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen!

*** RECESSIONAL HYMN ~ *God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian***

#450

Living God's WORD

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

#312

POSTLUDE ~ *Renew Your Church*

Liturgy by Pastor James based on ChatGPT 3.5

CCLI#1783708

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday

March 24, 2024

9:00 am Faith Formation

9:45 Procession with donkey and Blessing of the Palms

10:00 am Worship Service

Easter Egg Coloring in Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, March 27, 2024 at 6:00 pm.

Maundy Thursday Holy Communion

March 28, 2024 at 7:00 pm

Good Friday Prayer Vigil

March 29, 2024 Noon to 3:00 pm

Good Friday Service

March 29, 2024 at 7:00 pm

Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 30, 2024

Registration is 10:15 am to 11:00 am. Egg Hunt starts at 11:00 am.

Easter Services with Holy Communion

Sunday, March 31, 2024

Sunrise Service 6:00 am

Regular Worship 10:00 am

Please join us as we worship the Risen Savior