



GOOD SHEPHERD UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

3940 Mountain Road, Slatington, PA 18080

610-767-9680

NOVEMBER 1, 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: 9:00 am Faith Formation Class
10:00 am Sunday Worship/Totenfest
12:00 pm Hall Rental
Thurs: 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal
Fri: 7:00 pm AA Back to Basics
Sun: 9:00 am Faith Formation Class
10:00 am Sunday Worship/Jersey Sunday
Jersey Sunday
11:00 am Budget Hearing

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/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 November is Turning Point

Recognizing a growing need, a small group came together in 1976 to establish "May Day Anonymous", answering hotline calls from women who were victims of domestic violence in the area. In 1978, the group was granted nonprofit status and evolved into Turning Point of Lehigh Valley. Since its incorporation, Turning Point of Lehigh Valley (TPLV) has helped more than 100,000 victims of domestic abuse. www.turningpointlv.org or www.facebook.com/turningpointlv

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)

Oct 04-\$3,677.00 E-Giving \$351.05 (54)
Oct 11-\$1,169.00 E-Giving \$495.88 (43)
Oct 18-\$1,782.00 E-Giving \$301.07 (59)
Oct 25-\$1,346.00 E-Giving \$464.95 (40)

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

- We are collecting cans of corn for Northern Lehigh Food Bank for Thanksgiving. Our goal is 200 cans of corn needed by Sunday, November 8.
- Looking for someone to take Baptismal pictures of the family for Baptismal certificates.
- We are collecting individual applesauce servings for Backpack Buddies through December 31.
- Looking for volunteers to shovel snow this winter. Sign up in the Narthex.
- Boscov's Shopper coupon profit was \$365.00. Sharon Conway was the winner of the \$50.00 Cheesecake Factory Gift Card. She got donations for 15 coupons.
- Help is needed on Friday, November 6th to set up tables for the Cash & Gift Card Bingo on Saturday, November 7th. Please be at Fellowship Hall by 6 PM. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.
- Cash and Gift Card Bingo, Saturday, November 7. Doors open at 11:00 am. Games start at noon. Kitchen will be open.
- Wear your favorite sports jersey to church next Sunday, November 8.
- Stewardship Sunday is next Sunday, November 8. Please fill out a faith promise and put it in the box in the Narthex before then.
- Consistory is calling a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, November 15 following church.
- Friendsgiving will be a potluck luncheon after church on Sunday, November 22. All are invited. Please sign up in the Narthex if you want to share a casserole or dessert.
- Worship Team invites you to our Community Thanksgiving Eve service on Tuesday, November 24th at 7pm ~ bring two loaves of bread/two bottles of grape juice for blessing (one being donated to those in need while the other to be returned for your Thanksgiving table).

Good Shepherd Prayer Care List

In Hospice...Barbara Cannon, Diane Hardy

Family and Friends needing prayer: Keith Gross, Heather Moyer, Shane Moyer, Lee Haas, Brett Hunsicker, Tom Alcaro, Karen Anthony, Gail Bell, Marc Benninger, Howard Bilheimer, Lori Clay, Doug Farber, Donna Fox, Steve George, Dwayne Henritz, Barbara Hower, Gary Johannes, Hayden Keller, Laurie, Brenda Miller, Chris Oertner, Randy Parks, Ty Sander, Gary Schneck, Barry Soldridge, Donna Tully, Jenn Wentz, Margaret Wetzel, 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.

Our College Students: Tyla Block ~ Widener, Patrick Conway ~ Jacksonville, Riley Fallon ~ Penn State, Ben Griffith ~ NCC, Katy Griffith ~ Cedar Crest, Sarah Hope, DeSales, Breonna Richardson ~ Westchester, Colleen Shields ~ Strayer, Gabriella Smoyer ~ Cedar Crest, Luke Zook ~ Villanova

Our Worship Leaders Today.

Acolyte
Head Deacon
Lay Reader
Greeter
Altar Guild
Media Team

Mackenzi Palmer
Amanda Smith
Marie Bachman
Mary Storm
Bonnie Hewitt

Marie Bachman, Dr. Yezi Chen, Riley Fallon, Tracey Gursky,
Eric Hantz and Bryan Horninger

Altar Flowers are to the Glory of God and In Memory of daughter Barbara & husband Lester Storm by
Mary Storm

Bulletins are to the Honor and Glory of God.



Birthdays

Nov 2-Connie Beblavy
Nov 2-David McGinnis
Nov 6-Sheri Fallon
Nov 6-Marilyn Reitz
Nov 6-Slade Schaffer
Nov 6-Dayton White



Anniversaries

Nov 1-Randy & Eileen (Brobst) Andrews
Nov 2-Robert & Denise (Rodrigues) Koons, Sr.

GOOD SHEPHERD UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2026
23RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

ORDER OF WORSHIP
NOVEMBER 1, 2026 - TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
TOTENFEST

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

Gathering for God's **WORD**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE ~ *I Will Rise*

*** SOLEMN DECLARATION**

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

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

We gather surrounded by memories and held by grace. **We remember those who have shared the journey with us.**

We give thanks for lives of faith, service, kindness, and love. **Their lives remain part of our story.**

With gratitude for the saints who have gone before us, **we worship the God whose love holds every generation. Amen.**

*** HYMN** ~ *For All the Saints*

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Preparing Our Hearts for God's **WORD**

*** PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE**

God of every generation, **we confess that we sometimes seek recognition rather than service, importance rather than humility, and our own way rather than the way of love. As we remember those who have gone before us, remind us how brief and precious life is. Forgive what needs forgiving. Heal what remains wounded. Free us from pride and fear. Teach us to live humbly, love generously, serve faithfully, and use the days entrusted to us well. Lead us into new life through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

*** WORDS OF GRACE**

Hear the good news: God's mercy is from everlasting to everlasting. In Jesus Christ, the Son who lives forever, we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God! Amen!**

* THE HEIDELBERG CATECHISM

Question One: What is your only comfort in life and death?

That I, with body and soul, both in life and death, am not my own, but belong unto my faithful Savior Jesus Christ; who with His precious blood has fully satisfied for all my sins, and delivered me from all the power of the devil; and so preserves me that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; yea, that all things must be subservient to my salvation, wherefore by His Holy Spirit He also assures me of eternal life, and makes me heartily willing and ready, henceforth, to live unto Him.

TOTENFEST ~ Remembering those who have entered the Church Triumphant

Today we remember the saints of this congregation who have died since our last Totenfest. We remember their names. We remember their stories. We remember the ways they worshiped, served, laughed, struggled, loved, and shared life among us. As each name is spoken, we give thanks for a life that became part of our life together.

Lamont Harry Kern	April 3, 1933-December 16, 2025	aged 92
James Barry George, Sr.	September 3, 1938-February 14, 2026	aged 87
Geraldine Althea (Mack) Boyer	November 1, 1946-March 7, 2026	aged 79
Diane Marie (Peters) Reitz	July 4, 1947-July 22, 2026	aged 79

For these saints, and for all whose lives remain written upon our hearts ~ **We give You thanks, Oh God.**

May their memory continue to inspire us to live with humility, serve with compassion, and love generously.

Thank You, God for the lives they shared with us. Amen.

CONVERSATION WITH OUR YOUNGSTERS

BLESSINGS FOR JOYS AND/OR CONCERNS

Hearing God's WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of every generation, open Your WORD to us and teach us to live authentic lives filled with love and grace. Amen!

A READING from the Gospel of Matthew 23:1-12 [NRSVUE]

Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, “The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses’s seat; therefore, do whatever they teach you and follow it, but do not do as they do, for they do not practice what they teach. They tie up heavy burdens, hard to

bear, and lay them on the shoulders of others, but they themselves are unwilling to lift a finger to move them. They do all their deeds to be seen by others, for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long. They love to have the place of honor at banquets and the best seats in the synagogues and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces and to have people call them rabbi. But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all brothers and sisters. And call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father, the one in heaven. Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Messiah. The greatest among you will be your servant. All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted.

RESPONSE

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

Reflecting on God's WORD

HOMILY ~ Partners in Service

SPECIAL MUSIC ~ *No Want Shall I Know*

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

Those we remember today helped build the life of this congregation through countless acts of faithfulness ~ some remembered, many unseen. Now the ministry is entrusted to us. **Through our generosity, we continue what others began and help prepare the way for those who will come after us. Amen.**

OFFERTORY ~ *His Eye Is On the Sparrow*

*** DOXOLOGY**

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**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**

Loving God, we give You thanks for those whose faith shaped our own, whose love strengthened this community, and whose hope endures beyond the bounds of time.

As we bring our gifts to You today, we dedicate them in memory of those who have finished their earthly journey and now rest in Your eternal peace. May these offerings continue their legacy of faith ~ feeding the hungry, comforting the grieving, and building Your kingdom of compassion and light.

God of life everlasting, fill us with the same hope that sustained them, that we too might live and give as people of resurrection promise. Bless these gifts and the hearts that give them, that Your steadfast love may be known in every generation. Through Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

*** HYMN ~ *Abide with Me***

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Living God's WORD

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

#312

POSTLUDE ~ *You Have Called Me*

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

Liturgy by Pastor James based on ChatGPT 3.5

CCLI#1783708