



GOOD SHEPHERD UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

OCTOBER 11, 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 <i>Scrip Orders Due</i>
	6:00 pm	Family Promise at Heidelberg through Sunday 10/18 at 6 am
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 <i>Scrip Orders Delivered</i>
	11:00 am	Hall Rental
	1:00 pm	Feed My Starving Children Packing event

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 October is Guardianship Support Agency Inc

The mission of Guardianship Support Agency is to act as guardian for decision impaired persons who are unable to take care of their own financial and/or personal needs and have no other person willing and/or qualified to do so.

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 4-\$3,677.00 E-Giving \$351.05 (54)

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

- **Feed My Starving Children** will be held at **Mack Trucks**, 7000 Alburtis Rd, Macungie PA. **Our church is signed up for October 18** from 1-3 pm. Those interested, please sign up in the Narthex so that we have an idea of how many spots we will need. See Rae Anne Creyer for more information.
- **Cash & Gift Card Bingo, Saturday, November 7, 2026.** Game starts at 1 pm, doors open at noon. Kitchen will be open.
- We are **collecting individual cereal boxes for Backpack Buddies through October 31.**
- Our host week for **Family Promise is this week, October 11-18.** Emails were sent to previous volunteers, and you can sign up via the Signup Genius link within the email. **New volunteers are always welcome!** Family Promise Volunteer requirements (only needed if you are serving in the capacity of evening host or overnight host) are the PA Criminal Background Check and Child Abuse Clearance as well as the Family Promise training which can be viewed at <https://fplehighvalley.org/volunteer>.
- 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.**
- Altar Guild is asking for **empty plastic Blue Bunny ice cream containers** for taking home Altar Flowers.
- **\$5 Boscov’s Shopping Passes** available in the Narthex for online/ in store shopping **Wed. October 21.**
- **Looking for office volunteers** who would be able and willing to scan a large number of photos and put them on a flash drive (provided) to preserve our congregation’s history. Please contact Pastor James or Eileen Andrews if you would like to help.
- **Trunk or Treat, Sunday, October 25 ~ 12:00 pm.** Pizza and chips will be served to the children before the event starts. Sign up sheets in the Narthex for treats and decorating your vehicle.
- **Totenfest is Sunday, November 1.** If you have a loved one you want remembered, send photo and birth and death dates to secretary@goodshepherduccslatington.org no later than **October 25.**

Good Shepherd Prayer Care List

In Hospice...Barbara Cannon

Family and Friends needing prayer: Jane Evans, Lee Haas, Diane Hardey, Brett Hunsicker, Sandy Keller, Brenda Miller, Shane Moyer, Megane Streisel, 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, 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.

Guest Speaker
Acolyte
Head Deacon
Lay Reader
Greeter
Altar Guild
Media Team

Pastor Samantha Kistler
Jaxon Kline
Matt Shields
Rae Anne Creyer
Linda Henninger
Sharon Conway

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 Lester & Barbara Storm by Mary Storm.
Bulletins are to the Honor and Glory of God.



Birthdays

Oct 11-Obie O'Brien
Oct 12-Mary Bilheimer
Oct 12-Travis Frantz
Oct 12-Madison Harding
Oct 13-Jeff Hewitt
Oct 15-Esmae Bartczak
Oct 15-McKaylah Fricchione
Oct 15-Phillip White
Oct 17-Debra DeLong
Oct 17-Jonathan Ruch
Oct 17-Jarett White



Anniversaries

Oct 12-Jordan & Tiffany (Hamm) Hunsicker
Oct 14-Robert & Michelle (Horn) Schramel
Oct 15-Craig & Sallie (Arndt) Solt
Oct 17-Michael & Barbara (Hermann) Kremposky

GOOD SHEPHERD UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2026
20TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

ORDER OF WORSHIP
OCTOBER 11, 2026 - NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

“No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.” ~ Aesop

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

Gathering for God's WORD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE ~ *Leaning On the Everlasting Arms*

*** SOLEMN DECLARATION**

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

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

In a world filled with distractions, God calls us to center our hearts. **We turn our minds toward what gives life.**

Whatever is true, honorable, just, pure, pleasing, and praiseworthy ~ **Let us think about these things.**

And what fills our hearts shape the way we live. **Let us worship God together!**

*** HYMN ~ *Blessed Assurance***

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Preparing Our Hearts for God's WORD

*** CALL TO TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE**

What we allow to fill our minds eventually shapes our words, choices, and actions. Trusting in God’s grace, let us examine our hearts and open ourselves to transformation and new life.

*** PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE**

God of peace, **our minds are often crowded with worry, anger, judgement, and fear. We dwell on what divides us and overlook what is good. We remember offenses more easily than kindness. We sometimes contribute to the very negativity we wish would disappear. Turn our hearts toward what is true, honorable, just, pure, pleasing, and worthy of praise. Transform our thinking, renew our living, and help us become people whose words and actions bring hope and peace. Through Christ we pray. Amen.**

*** WORDS OF GRACE**

God does not abandon us to our mistakes but grants us another opportunity to begin. We are forgiven. We are loved. We are free to live differently. **Thanks be to God! Amen!**

*** WHAT WE BELIEVE TOGETHER**

What do we believe?

We believe in the God of love, hope, and peace.

We follow Jesus Christ, who showed us how to live with compassion and courage.

We trust the Holy Spirit to renew our minds and guide our lives.

We believe truth matters, kindness matters, justice matters, and the way we treat one another matters.

We believe God's grace can transform us and God's peace can work through us. Amen.

CONVERSATION WITH OUR YOUNGSTERS

Hearing God's WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of wisdom, quiet our minds, open our hearts, and help us hear Your Word. Amen!

A READING from the Gospel of Luke 22:14-30 [the Message]

When it was time, he sat down, all the apostles with him, and said, “You’ve no idea how much I have looked forward to eating this Passover meal with you before I enter my time of suffering. It’s the last one I’ll eat until we all eat it together in the kingdom of God.”

Taking the cup, he blessed it, then said, “Take this and pass it among you. As for me, I’ll not drink wine again until the kingdom of God arrives.”

Taking bread, he blessed it, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body, given for you. Eat it in my memory.”

He did the same with the cup after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant written in my blood, blood poured out for you.

“Do you realize that the hand of the one who is betraying me is at this moment on this table? It’s true that the Son of Man is going down a path already marked out—

no surprises there. But for the one who turns him in, turns traitor to the Son of Man, this is doomsday.”

They immediately became suspicious of each other and began quizzing one another, wondering who might be about to do this.

Within minutes they were bickering over who of them would end up the greatest.

But Jesus intervened: “Kings like to throw their weight around and people in authority like to give themselves fancy titles. It’s not going to be that way with you. Let the senior among you become like the junior; let the leader act the part of the servant.

“Who would you rather be: the one who eats the dinner or the one who serves the dinner? You’d rather eat and be served, right? But I’ve taken my place among you as the one who serves. And you’ve stuck with me through thick and thin. Now I confer on you the royal authority my Father conferred on me so you can eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and be strengthened as you take up responsibilities among the congregations of God’s people.

RESPONSE

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

Reflecting on God's WORD

HOMILY ~ There is Room at the Table

Pastor Samantha Kistler

SPECIAL MUSIC ~ *Walking By Faith*

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 GENEROSITY

Through our generosity, we turn gratitude into action and help create hope and possibilities for others. Amen.

OFFERTORY ~ *God Will Make a Way*

*** 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**

Generous God, receive these gifts and use them to bring hope where there is need, and peace where there is division. And may our generosity become part of the praiseworthy lives we seek to live through Jesus Christ. Amen!

*** HYMN ~ *My Hope Is Built***

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Living God's WORD

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

POSTLUDE ~ *Rejoice, The Lord Is King!*

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

Liturgy by Pastor James based on ChatGPT 3.5

CCLI#1783708

Samantha Kistler recently received authorization for ministry through the Mountain Valley Association of the United Church of Christ and will be ordained on November 1. She is a May 2026 graduate of Moravian University's School of Theology, where she earned a Master of Arts in Ministry.

Samantha currently serves as a ministry intern at St. John's UCC in Fullerton, where she has enjoyed growing in ministry alongside the congregation. Following her ordination, she will continue that ministry as Associate Pastor. She also works full-time as a special education teacher at the high school level, a vocation that has shaped her passion for listening, walking alongside others, and helping people recognize their gifts and worth.

Samantha lives in Lehighton with her husband, Michael, and their two young daughters. She is grateful for the opportunity to be with you today and to share in worship and fellowship with your congregation.