

**PRAYER GUIDE FOR WEEK OF JANUARY 7 THROUGH 14**

Please contact Pastor Jon Buxton or the Church Office at 570-675-3616 if you are being hospitalized, having surgery, in need of pastoral care or prayer. Prayer requests can be included on the email prayer chain by contacting the church office at shavertownumc@susumc.org.

**OUR PRAYER LIST:** The United Methodist Church, Our Country, victims of violence; those persecuted for their faith; men & women in Law Enforcement; caregivers; those in difficult relationships; children & teens at risk; those incarcerated; those with hatred in their hearts; marriages in trouble, cancer and Covid 19 victims, families dealing with Alzheimer’s

**JOYS:** Epiphany (The Greek word for reveal) is when the baby Jesus was revealed to the world after a star led the Magi to visit the baby after his birth.

**CONCERNS:** Our homebound friends, People of Ukraine, Brenda Stchur, Rachel, Family of Maria Hughes, Earl & Carol Folk, Vesta Fountain, Carol Broehl, Maggie, Michelle Jackubowski, A Dear Friend, Robert Deeble, The Family of Betty Ashbridge, A Neighbor’s Family, Jimmy Tighe

*Names remain on the list for 2 weeks unless notified otherwise. Thank You & may God bless!*

**PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY:**

Maj. Shannon Dzury Dawson, USAF,	Sgt. Amy Polachek, USM, Quantico,VA
LCDR John W. Gilligan, US Navy	Rick Hodle, Jr., US Navy
Sgt. Scott Kocher	Sgt. Josh McCue, US Air Force
Lt. Col. Stephen C. Phillips	Specialist Charles Yavorski, FT. Bragg, NC
Todd Mark, US Army, South Korea	1 <sup>st</sup> LT Gregory Navestad, Hill AFB, UT
Col. P.J. Perrone Jr., Fort Belvoir, VA	Travis Butler, US Navy Reserves
Major Erika Reese, US Army, Ft. Benning, GA	2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt. Michael T. Shutlock, US Air Force
1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. Allen Carson, 109 <sup>th</sup> US Army Reserves, Phila.	Sgt. Brandon Pall, Fort Hood, TX
Rick Hodle III, US Army	Jon Laity, US Navy, Japan
CPL Michael Biesecker, US Marine Corps Reserves	

**Think of this Friend** (with cards and prayers)  
Vesta Fountain, 19 Idlewood Dr., Dallas, Pa. 18612

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

We are so glad to worship with you today!

Church Office Hours: Monday through Friday 8:30am through 3:00pm

**JANUARY ALTAR GUILD:** Nan Boswell & Carter Thompson  
**LITURGIST:** Mary Ellen Pajor (Sat) Sheri Harvatine (Sun)  
**USHERS/GREETERS:** Edie Graziano/Frank & Marsha Paczewski (Sat) Gary & Jenny Young (Sun)  
**TRUSTEE SECURITY FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 9:** TBD  
**ACOLYTE:** Landon H.

- Sun. Jan. 8      Worship 9:30am  
Sunday School 10:30am  
Youth Group Pajama Party 4-6:30pm Social Hall
- Mon. Jan. 9      Women’s Bible Study 1-3pm  
PEO Meeting 7pm Lounge
- Tues. Jan. 10    Men’s Ecumenical Breakfast 8am Apple Tree Terrace  
Coffee & Conversation McDonald’s 10am  
Trustee Meeting 7pm  
Men’s Bible Study 7 pm on Zoom
- Wed. Jan. 11    Prayer 9am on Zoom  
AA Meeting 7pm Social Hall  
Chancel Choir 7:30 pm
- Thurs. Jan. 12   AA Book Discussion Meeting 7-8pm in Social Hall  
Connected in Christ – 7:00pm in Lounge  
Endowment Meeting 7pm
- Fri. Jan. 13      Community Care Cabinet 10am
- Sat. Jan. 14      Worship 5:30pm

**Weekly Financial Goal: \$6,450 Week of Dec 31/ Jan 1: \$7667**  
**Faithfulness in Attendance Dec 31/Jan 1: In Person Worship 78 Online Worship 35**

**COMING UP JANUARY 14 THROUGH JANUARY 21**

**JANUARY ALTAR GUILD:** Nan Boswell & Carter Thompson

**LITURGIST:** TBD (Sat) Leonard Buxton (Sun)

**USHERS/GREETERS:** Donna & Sarah Church (Sat) John & Kay Simons (Sun)

**TRUSTEE SECURITY FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 9:** TBD

**ACOLYTE:** Owen B.

- Sun. Jan. 15    Worship 9:30am  
                  Sunday School 10:30am  
                  God's Handful 11:30 am -12:30 pm
- Mon. Jan. 16    Women's Bible Study 1-3 pm
- Tues. Jan. 17    Men's Ecumenical Breakfast 8am Apple Tree Terrace  
                  Coffee & Conversation McDonald's 10am  
                  Children of Light 4:30 pm  
                  Chapel Chimes 5 pm  
                  Good News Ringers 6:00 pm  
                  Finance Meeting 5 pm
- Wed. Jan. 18    Prayer 9am on Zoom  
                  SPPRC Meeting 6:30pm  
                  AA Meeting 7pm Social Hall  
                  Chancel Choir 7:30pm
- Thurs. Jan. 19    AA Book Discussion Meeting 7-8pm in Social Hall  
                  Connected in Christ – 7:00pm in Lounge
- Fri. Jan. 20    Community Care Cabinet 10am
- Sat. Jan. 21    Worship 5:30pm

Our Nursery is available on Sundays during worship and we have Activity Bags for young children in the back of the church.

**MISSION AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AT SHAVERTOWN UMC**

**YOUTH GROUP PAJAMA PARTY** – All youth, grades 6-12, are invited to join us for a party on January 8, 4-6:30pm in the Social Hall. Please wear your favorite pajamas for a fun time of games, karaoke, decorate your own cupcake, and a movie with popcorn! We are also doing a secret Santa gift exchange, please see Brenda Kopalek if you need the name of who you are shopping for.

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES:** Looking for something to do in the cold winter months, why not join a Bible Study? You can grow in your faith, while enjoying fun and fellowship!

Adult Sunday School – Sundays, 10:30-11:30am - Lounge

Women's Bible Study – Mondays, 1-3pm - Lounge

Men's Bible Study – Tuesdays, 7pm - Zoom

Connected in Christ – Thursday, 7-8:30pm - Lounge

**"SOUPER BOWL OF CARING" FOOD DRIVE** – Our Sunday School classes, and Youth Group are doing a Food Drive, starting next weekend. Please help us "Tackle Hunger" by donating nonperishable food to the Back Mountain Food Pantry. They are currently in need of soup, flour, sugar, and cereal.

**FLOWER CHART:** The 2023 flower chart is now in the narthex. If you would like a particular week to purchase altar flowers, please fill in on the date you wish to reserve.

**SOUP:** Nothing like a hot cup of soup to warm the soul in these cold winter days. Look for more information about our Soup Fest coming on January 28.

**UPPER ROOM:** The "Upper Room" devotional for January/February is now available in the Narthex.

Welcome! We are happy you are joining us for worship today. If you are looking for a church home, we would love to welcome you as part of the Shavertown UMC family! Please fill out a connection card found in the pew and put it in the collection plate. We worship on Saturday at 5:30 PM and Sunday at 9:30 AM. Christian education is available for all ages. We invite you to visit our welcome table in the Narthex for a gift and information on the many ministries our church has to offer. You can also follow us on Facebook and visit our website at [www.shavertownumc.com](http://www.shavertownumc.com). We hope you will join us again.

# Shavertown United Methodist Church

January 7 & 8, 2023

## Baptism of the Lord Sunday

The mission of the United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ  
for the transformation of the world!

(\* indicates please stand if you are able)

### PRELUDE

"A New Beginning"

Organ: Nancy Evans

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### CENTERING MEDITATION

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you,  
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;  
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned.

Isaiah 43:2

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Mary Ellen Pajor (Sat) Sheri Harvatine (Sun)

The Holy Spirit is our faithful guide.

**At all times and in all things, the Spirit of God remains at our side.**

When we wander in places of wilderness,

**The Spirit delivers us with a mighty hand.**

When uncertain times make us weary,

**The Spirit will lead us in goodness and truth.**

Be still, and listen as the Spirit sweetly whispers,

**"Follow me, wandering one. I will guide You home."**

### \*OPENING PRAYER

Mary Ellen Pajor (Sat) Sheri Harvatine (Sun)

**Most wonderful God, foolish and flawed though we are,  
we too delight in your beloved Son.**

**As in his name we gather in the house of many praises,  
may the heavens be opened for us,**

**that we may catch a glimpse of that Light and Love  
that transforms our common days  
with a beauty not of our making.**

**Through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen!**

~ by Bruce Prewer <http://www.bruceprewer.com/DocA/10BAPTIS.htm>

### \*OPENING HYMN

"Nearer, My God, to Thee"

#528

Vs. 1,2,4

### CHILDREN'S CHAT

"Where Children Belong"

#2233

*This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshipping throng.  
Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song: This is where children belong.*

### JOYS AND CONCERNS

### CALL TO PRAYER

"Through It All"

#507

*Through it all, through it all, I've learned to trust in Jesus, I've learned to trust in God; through  
it all, through it all, I've learned to depend upon God's word.*

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who 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 trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,  
for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

### GIFT OF MUSIC

"Do You Hear What I Hear?"

Arr. Harry Simeone  
Chancel & God's Handful

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, You pardon all who truly repent and turn to You.

**We humbly confess our sins and ask for Your mercy. We have not loved You with a pure  
heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, spread  
kindness, or walked humbly with You. Holy God, in Your loving kindness, have mercy on us.**

In Your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin.

**Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us.**

Do not cast us from Your presence or take Your Holy Spirit from us.

**Restore to us the joy of Your salvation and sustain us with Your bountiful Spirit.**

(silent reflection)

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone, and new life springs up  
within us. My friends, hear and believe the good news of the Gospel:

**The Father calls to us, the Spirit pleads for us, and by the work of Jesus Christ,  
we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.**

### CALL TO OFFERING

**\*DOXOLOGY**

#94

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, who power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

**\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Mary Ellen Pajor (Sat) Sheri Harvatine (Sun)

**God of all goodness and grace,  
receive these gifts that we offer;  
and grant that our whole life  
may give you glory and praise;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

**WORD OF GOD**

Isaiah 43:1-7  
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Mary Ellen Pajor (Sat)  
Sheri Harvatine (Sun)

**HYMN OF PREPARATION**

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”  
Vs. 1

#474

**MESSAGE**

“Beginning with Baptism”

Cindy Biesecker  
Certified Lay Speaker

**\*HYMN OF GOING FORTH**

“It Is Well With My Soul”  
Vs. 1, 2 & 4

#377

**\*BENEDICTION**

**May the waters of God’s grace surround you and uphold you.  
May your baptisms strengthen you for the work ahead.  
And may the Spirit that descended upon Jesus at his baptism  
fall upon your shoulders as you seek to do God’s will.**

*(Rev. Stephen M. Fearing)*

**\*POSTLUDE**

Variations on: “It Is Well With My Soul”

Piano: Nancy Evans

**Immediately following worship, all Sunday school students  
will meet in the Social Hall. Parents are invited to join us for our brief  
opening with announcements Thank you!**



**January 7 & 8, 2023**

**SHAVERTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

163 North Pioneer Avenue, Shavertown, PA 18708

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E-mail address: [shavertownumc@susumc.org](mailto:shavertownumc@susumc.org)

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Like us on Facebook: Shavertown United Methodist Church

Ministers: All who love and serve Jesus Christ

Pastor: Rev. Jon Buxton

Home Phone: 570-675-6412 Email: [jbuxton@susumc.org](mailto:jbuxton@susumc.org)

Director of Music – Nancy Evans

Bookkeeper – Rich Fufaro

Custodian – Brad Lothridge

Christian Education Director – Brenda Kopalek

Nursery Staff – Sandy Michalisin

Office Manager – Jeanne Kapral

Communications Coordinator – Amy Wall

**Hospitality Opportunity Prepare Engage**