



Shavertown United Methodist Church

Top Three  
**Reasons**  
**Jesus**  
Likes **Sinners**

June 10 & 11, 2023

**We're glad you're joining us today!**

If you're looking for a church home, we'd love to welcome you as part of the Shavertown UMC family! Please fill out a yellow connection card found in the pew and put it in the collection plate.

Christian Education is available for all ages.

You're invited to visit our Welcome Table in the Narthex for a gift and information on the many ministries our church offers.

We hope you'll join us again.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

### Helping with Worship Today:

Greeters/Ushers: Mary Ellen Pajor (Sat) Margi Esopi & Mardy Shepherd (Sun)  
Acolyte: Keyara S (Sun) Liturgists: Sarah Church (Sat) Sheri Harvatine (Sun)

(\* indicates please stand if you are able)

### PRELUDE

Saturday Worship Musician: Ed Pall

Sunday : "Sing to the King"

By Billy James Foote

Worship Musicians: Step By Step Praise Band Ensemble

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### CENTERING MEDITATION

For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.

Matthew 9:13b

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Sarah (Sat) Sheri (Sun)

A new world awaits

**Through an open door.**

Welcome into the house of God.

**Discover renewal and new life.**

Find hope and blessing.

**Taste joy and forgiveness.**

A new world awaits.

**Sing praise to God who beckons us to dwell in the new community of the redeemed.**

### \*OPENING HYMN

"Blessed Assurance"

#369 (Sat)

"Lord, I Lift Your Name on High"

#2088 (Sun)

2 Times

### \*OPENING PRAYER

Sarah (Sat) Sheri (Sun)

**We dare to approach your throne of grace, O God, because we want to be closer to you. As we contemplate the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord, open our minds to better understanding of this revelation. Help us to follow Christ more closely so that, when the shadows fall upon our earthly life and we are called home, we may hear the words, "Well done, good and faithful servant. Enter into the joy of your Master." Amen.**

**CHILDREN'S CHAT**

"Where Children Belong"

#2233

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

**JOYS AND CONCERNS****CALL TO PRAYER**

"Surely the Presence of the Lord is in this Place"

#328 (Sat)

*Surely, the presence of the Lord is in this place; I can feel his mighty power and his grace.  
I can hear the brush of angels' wings; I see glory on each face;  
surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.*

"Just a Closer Walk with Thee"

#2158 (Sun)

*I am weak, but thou art strong; Jesus, keep me from all wrong; I'll be satisfied as long as I  
walk, let me walk close to thee. Just a closer walk with thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea, daily  
walking close to thee: Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/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.**

**CALL TO OFFERING****GIFT OF MUSIC**

"Goodness of God"

By Ben Fielding

Ed Cash, Jason Ingram, Jenn &amp; Brian Johnson

Step By Step

**\*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, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

**\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Sarah (Sat) Sheri (Sun)

**Bountiful God, when we come to you with nothing, you yourself provide the offering;  
when the burden of our sacrifice threatens to overwhelm us, you spare us the deadly cost.  
In tribute and thanks for your manifold blessings, we offer you what we have in certain  
hope of your abiding love. Amen.**

**GIFT OF MUSIC**

“Who You Say I Am”

By R. Morgan & B. Fielding  
Step By Step Praise Band Ensemble

**WORD OF GOD**

Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26  
New Testament Pg. 9

Sarah (Sat) Sheri (Sun)

**MESSAGE**

“Unconditional”  
“Top 3 Reasons Jesus Likes Sinners”

Rev. Jim Pall  
Rev. Jon Buxton

**RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

See Insert(Sun)

**\*HYMN OF GOING FORTH**

“Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore”  
Vs. 1 & 2  
“Grace Greater than Our Sins”  
Vs. 1 & 4

#344 (Sat)

#365(Sun)

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*POSTLUDE**

“Blessed Assurance”

By Fanny Crosby/Phoebe Knapp  
Organ: Nancy Evans

**SHAVERTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

163 North Pioneer Avenue, Shavertown, PA 18708

P: 570-675-3616 | E: [shavertownumc@susumc.org](mailto:shavertownumc@susumc.org) | [www.shavertownumc.com](http://www.shavertownumc.com)

Pastor: Rev. Jon Buxton

P: 570-675-6412 | E: [jbuxton@susumc.org](mailto:jbuxton@susumc.org)

Director of Music: Nancy Evans | Treasurer: Rich Fufaro | Nursery Staff: Nicole Trevaskis

Custodian: Brad Lothridge | Christian Education Director: Brenda Kopalek

Office Manager: Jeanne Kapral | Communications Coordinator: Amy Wall

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



# Shavertown United Methodist Church Announcements

Church Office Hours: Monday through Friday 8:30am through 3:00pm  
Weekly Worship Services Saturdays 5:30pm & Sundays 9:30am  
Activity Bags for young children are available in the back of the church.  
Nursery is available during the 9:30am worship.

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## NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP HELP FOR JUNE 17/18:

**Greeters & Ushers:** Donna & Sarah Church (Sat) The Wilson Family (Sun)

**Acolyte:** Owen B. | **Liturgist:** Bev Atherholt (Sat) Rich Oley (Sun)

## MISSION & MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

**PRAISE BAND CONCERT:** Please join us for an evening of music on Monday, June 12, at 7pm for our last concert of the season. Have a pleasant summer and we look forward to returning in the fall.

**PRISCILLA CIRCLE:** Our picnic will be held on Tuesday, June 20 at 6pm in the pavilion. Bring your place setting and a dish to share (along with the recipe). Beverages will be provided. Also bring a wrapped gift for our auction which will benefit our vacation bible school. You do not have to be a member to attend. Please join us for good food and fellowship. For more information, please call Cathy Berkey at 570-709-2338.

**SPECIAL CHURCH CONFERENCE:** A special church conference will be held on Sunday, June 25, 2023, at 10:30am directly following worship. The purpose of this meeting is to authorize the use of a portion of the Shavertown UMC endowment fund for the purpose of capital improvements which are long overdue. Please join us for a brief time to hear about some planned improvements projects and vote. Please note that although all are welcome to attend, only current members of Shavertown UMC are allowed to vote.

**SATURDAY WORSHIP:** Starting June 3, our 5:30pm Saturday evening worship will be in the pavilion (weather permitting). The pavilion is located behind the Aicher Parking Lot on Pioneer Ave. next to St. Nicholas Cemetery. Join us as we worship in the beauty of God's creation.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:** Our VBS "Food Truck Party: On a Roll with God" is Monday, July 17<sup>th</sup> through Thursday, July 20<sup>th</sup>. Dinner is 5:15pm and the program is 6-8pm. All children currently in preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> grade can register on the church website. Our VBS includes cool music, unique science experiments, creative crafts, fun games, and exciting Bible stories!

**VBS VOLUNTEERS:** Many adult and youth volunteers are needed for VBS July 17-20. This is an important community outreach. We hope you will consider helping to make it a great success. If you can't do all 4 days, that is okay, just indicate how many days you could help. There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex or you can register on the church website at [shavertownumc@susumc.org](mailto:shavertownumc@susumc.org).

## **BACK MOUNTAIN CHURCHES, COMMUNITY & BEYOND**

**MEET & GREET/BOOK SIGNING:** A presentation will be given by Gene McGuire on June 15 at Tunkhannock Area Intermediate Center at 7pm. He was imprisoned for over 34 years for a murder he did not commit. Hear how he shares his life's journey filled with the power of God's love and forgiveness. This is open to the public and free admission.

**PRAISE IN THE PARK:** The Trucksville UMC will gather at the boat launch near Pavilion 3, Sunday, June 25 at 2pm for one hour to dedicate to your own health, the wellbeing of your mind, body, and soul carving out intentional time in God's creation to rest, relax and restore with Him.

**CUSTODIAN OPENING:** The Trucksville UMC is looking for an individual willing to be a part of our congregation's ministry team in the position of part-time custodian. The custodian's main responsibility would be to clean the education building and the sanctuary, maintain the grounds of the church property, and provide set-up for events when needed. We estimate approximately 20-25 hours per week on average. Completed applications and resumes are due by June 16th. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Jay Jones via email ([jjones@susumc.org](mailto:jjones@susumc.org)) or by calling the church office at (570) 696-3897.

**MISSION U – JULY 2023 Sponsored by United Women in Faith:** This year's theme, "Living the Kin-dom: Exploring the Lord's Prayer as a Spiritual Practice for Social Transformation" will be presented in a two-day school, July 21 – 22 at Country Cupboard Inn, Lewisburg. One day July 20 at Country Cupboard Inn, Lewisburg and on July 29 at Chambers Hill UMC, all led by Rev. Dr. Ed Zeiders. An online school led by Rev. Dr. Kathy Harvey-Nelson will be July 5, 12, 29, and 26. A Mission U Children's school will be held at Country Cupboard Inn, Lewisburg on July 21-22. Registration and pricing information for the adult and children's school is online. Email [skipspangler3@gmail.com](mailto:skipspangler3@gmail.com) or call 717-855-7381 for more info.

## Shavertown UMC Weekly Events & Activities:

These are recurring, regular events & activities.

Sundays 9:30am Worship

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Monday 1-3pm Women's Bible Study

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Tuesday 8 am Men's Ecumenical Breakfast @ Apple Tree Terrace  
10am Coffee & Conversation @ McDonalds, Shavertown  
7pm Men's Bible Study on Zoom

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Wednesday 9am Prayer on Zoom  
7pm AA Meeting, Social Hall

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Thursday 7pm AA Book Discussion Meeting, Social Hall

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Friday 10am Community Care Cabinet

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Saturday 5:30pm Worship - Pavilion

**June Altar Guild:** Fred & Marilyn Wesley

**Trustee Week of June 11** – Aaron Harvatine **Trustee Week of June 18** – Bob Wagner

**Weekly Financial Goal: \$6,450 Week of June 3-4: \$11,089**

**Faithfulness in Attendance June 3-4 :In Person Worship 119 Online Worship 35`**

# WEEKLY PRAYER LIST

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](mailto:shavertownumc@susumc.org).

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**OUR JOYS:** The success of the youth group's Super Silly Sloppy Summer Shenanigans, Mark K. home after a successful surgery.

**ALWAYS BE IN PRAYER FOR:** The United Methodist Church, Our Country, People of Ukraine, Victims of the shootings & 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

**PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY:** Our homebound friends, The Wagner Family, Eric Rome, Oliver Derrick, Jim Petrie, Mark Kucewicz, 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  
1st LT Gregory Navestad, Hill AFB, UT

Col. P.J. Perrone Jr., Fort Belvoir, VA  
Travis Butler, US Navy Reserves  
Maj. Erika Reese, US Army, Ft. Benning, GA  
2nd Lt. Michael T. Shutlock, US Air Force  
1st Lt. Allen Carson, 109th US Army  
Reserves, Phila.  
Sgt. Brandon Pall, Army, Poznan, Poland  
Rick Hodle III, US Army  
Jon Laity, US Navy, Japan  
CPL Michael Biesecker, USMC Reserves

<p><b>Think of this Friend</b> (with cards and prayers) Vesta Fountain, 19 Idlewood Dr., Dallas, Pa. 18612</p>
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## RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Brothers and sisters in Christ: Through the Sacrament of Baptism God's Spirit initiates us into Christ's holy church and blesses us on our journey of faith. God calls each of us to live out our faith in a faith community for that is where our spiritual lives can be best nurtured and grown. Today we welcome these *sisters* in Christ who seek to join our community of faith here at Shavertown United Methodist Church.

### PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

Pastor: On behalf of the whole church, I ask you: Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world and repent of your sin?

**New Members: I do.**

Pastor: Do accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

**New Members: I do.**

Pastor: Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Lord and your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations and races?

**New Members: I do.**

Pastor: According to the grace given to you, will you remain *faithful members* of Christ's holy church and serve as Christ's *representatives* in the world?

**New Members: I will.**

Pastor: As *members* of Christ's universal church, will you be loyal to the United Methodist Church, and do all in your power to strengthen its ministries?

**New Members: I will.**

Pastor: As *members* of this congregation, will you faithfully participate in its ministries by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness?

**New Members: I will.**

## TO THE CONGREGATION

Pastor: Do you, as Christ's body, the church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

**Congregation: We do.**

Pastor: Will you be living witnesses to the gospel, individually and together, wherever you are, and in all that you do?

**Congregation: We will remain faithful members of Christ's holy church and serve as Christ's representatives in the world.**

Pastor: Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include *these persons* before you in your care?

**Congregation: With God's help we will live the gospel of Jesus Christ. We will live according to the example of Christ. We will surround *these persons* with a community of love and forgiveness, that *they* may grow in their trust of God, and be found faithful in *their* service to others. We will pray for *them* that *they* may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.**

Let us join together in professing the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,  
is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

## COMMENDATION AND WELCOME

Members of the household of God, I commend *these persons* to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase *their* faith, confirm *their* hope, and perfect *them* in love.

**Congregation:** We give thanks for all that God has given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of the United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

The God of all grace, who has called us to eternal glory in Christ, establish you and strengthen you by the power of the Holy Spirit, that you may live in grace and peace.



## CELEBRATION OF THE RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Kathy Anselmi  
Emily Grimes

SHAVERTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
June 11, 2023