



Shavertown United Methodist Church

# Who Gets to Choose?



May 4 & 5, 2024

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 place it into the collection plate.

You're invited to visit our Welcome Table in the Narthex for a gift and information on the many ministries of our church including Christian Education opportunities.

We hope you'll join us again.

# 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

## Helping with Worship today:

Rev. Judy Walker, Scranton Wilkes-Barre District Superintendent

Greeters/Ushers: Frank & Linda Gruver (Sat) Brad Wall & Own O. (Sun)

Acolyte: Madison W. (Sun) | Liturgists: Bev Atherholt (Sat) Mary Ellen Pajor (Sun)

(\* indicates please stand if you are able)

## PRELUDE

“Fanfare of Praise”

By: Jason W. Krug  
Organ: Nancy Evans

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CENTERING MEDITATION

“This is my commandment: love each other just as I have loved you.”  
-Jesus (John 15:12)

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Bev (Sat) Mary Ellen (Sun)

With hearts full of joy, let us give thanks for God’s steadfast love and faithfulness!

**O sing to God a new song!**

With songs and celebration, let us bring God our thanks and praise!

**O sing to God a new song!**

With a joyful noise, let us worship God!

**O sing to God a new song!**

## \*OPENING HYMN

“I Come with Joy”

#617

## \*OPENING PRAYER

Bev (Sat) Mary Ellen (Sun)

Faithful, loving God, be with us now. We have gathered to bring you our thanks and praise. We have come to learn your ways of love. You have called us to keep your commandments and to love as you love. You have chosen us to bear fruit in your holy name. Faithful, loving God, help us remember that our words and actions matter in this world. Guide us to witness to your ways. Lead us to be instruments of your love. With all that we say and do, may our lives resound with songs of joy to you! Amen.

## CHILDREN’S CHAT

“Where Children Belong”

#2233 (Sun)

*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** "The Family Prayer Song" #2188  
*Come and fill our homes with your presence; you alone are worthy of our reverence.  
As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord. As for me and my house, we will serve the  
Lord. As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord. We will serve the Lord.*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### CALL TO OFFERING

**GIFT OF MUSIC** "Tu Has Venido a la Orilla" By K. Crane & J. Klein (Sun)  
(Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore) Chancel Choir  
Spanish Soloist: John Doerfler

**\*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** Bev (Sat) Mary Ellen (Sun)  
**Gracious and generous God, you call us to love one another as you love us. May our gifts  
reveal our love for you. May our lives be reflections of your love as we share with a world in  
need. We ask for your blessing on these gifts and on our lives. We pray in Jesus' name.  
Amen.**

**WORD OF GOD** Acts 10:44-48 & John 15:9-17 Bev (Sat) Mary Ellen (Sun)  
Pg 130 & 109 Respectively

**MESSAGE** "Who Gets to Choose?" Rev. Judy Walker

**HOLY COMMUNION** See Insert

**\*HYMN OF GOING FORTH** "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" #557  
Vs. 1 & 4

**\*BENEDICTION**

Go now into the world. Love God and obey God's commandments.

**We go forth in love.**

Abide in God's love. For in God's love, your joy will be complete!

**We go forth in love.**

**\*POSTLUDE**

"Shalom to You"

By: Anonymous  
Chancel & God's Handful

**Immediately following worship, all Sunday school students should remain in the Sanctuary for Children's Day practice.**

**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: Tuesday 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.

---

---

## MISSION & MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

**WASHCLOTHS FOR MISSION CENTRAL:** The Susquehanna Annual Conference is scheduled to meet May 30 and delegates will be collecting items for Care Kits for Mission Central. Churches in the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Districts are asked to collect adult sized washcloths to help. Our goal is to complete 1000 Care Kits to bless others in both our local communities and across the world. There is a bin in the narthex for washcloth donations.

**VBS PLANNING MEETING:** We will be having a planning meeting for Vacation Bible School on May 5 at 11:30am in the H.S. Sunday School room. Everyone looking to learn more about our VBS program are welcome to join us.

**BIRTHDAY TEA:** Our annual birthday tea will take place on Sun, May 5<sup>th</sup> in the Social Hall at 1pm. Tables are decorated for each month of the year. This event is for all women of the church and community. What a great opportunity for conversation and fellowship.

**GRADUATES:** Please contact the church office with names and parent e-mail of any High School or College Graduates by May 10.

**CHILDREN'S DAY:** Our Sunday School students and teachers are busy preparing for our Children's Day Service on May 12 at 9:30am. Our theme this year is the "The Good Shepherd Mysteries". We hope you will join us and enjoy the children leading us in worship!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** There will be no Sunday School on May 12. The last day of Sunday School is May 19.

**POST-GENERAL CONFERENCE WEBINARS:** The Susquehanna Conference delegation is hosting two post-General Conference webinars to share the most important takeaways from General Conference and answer questions that you may have. Feel free to register individually or as a congregation! These webinars are scheduled for: Thursday, May 16 from 7-8pm and Tuesday, May 21 from noon-1pm. Contact the church office with your email address for registration.

**SIGHT AND SOUND TRIP:** We have 7 seats left for our Sight and Sound Theatre trip to Lancaster, Pa. on July 3, 2024, to see “Daniel”.

Ages 13 & up...\$180/person Ages 12 & under ...\$120/person. Full Payment due May 12 (checks should be made out to SUMC)

\*\*\*Everyone already signed up should check the list in the narthex; if your name has an asterisk next to it, please see Brenda Kopalek or Amy Kelly\*\*\*

**CONFIRMATION/PENTECOST:** Please join us on May 19 for Confirmation as 7 of our young people make their Profession of Faith.

**CAMP INFORMATION SESSION:** On May 19, 1-4pm at Orange UMC the director of Wesley Forest will be holding an information session on various UM camps, retreats, and scholarship opportunities. Refreshments will be provided along with activities, games, and other camp activities. There are camping opportunities for both children and adults.

**HOME COMMUNION VISITATION VOLUNTEERS:** Shavertown UMC is restarting our Home Communion Visitation Team. These persons volunteer to visit and take communion to our shut-ins 3-4 times per year. If you would be interested in joining in this ministry or have questions please contact Glenda Shepherd (205-299-6313) or Pastor Jon (570-675-3616).

**UPPER ROOM:** The May-June Upper Room is available in the Narthex.

**BLOOD DRIVE:** Please consider giving the gift of life at Dallas UMC on Thursday, May 16 from noon until 5.

### **NEXT WEEK’S WORSHIP HELP FOR MAY 11-12**

**Greeters & Ushers:** Deb & Ray Poremba (Sat)

**Greeters:** Preschool, Kindergarten & 1<sup>st</sup> Graders **Ushers:** Middle School Students (Sun)

**Liturgist:** Mary Ellen Pajor (Sat) High School Students (Sun) **Acolyte:** Ava K.

**May Altar Guild:** Deb & Ray Poremba

**Trustee Week of May 5:** Joe Kopalek **Trustee Week of May 12:** Charlie Kishbaugh

**Finances:** Weekly Financial Goal: \$6,450 Week of April 27-28: \$6,142

**Faithfulness in Attendance:** April 20-21: In Person Worship 147 Online Worship 35

## UPCOMING AND WEEKLY EVENTS MAY 5-18

- May 5: VBS Planning Meeting 11:30am HS Sunday School Room  
         Birthday Tea 1:00pm Social Hall  
         Confirmation Meeting/Celebration at Pavilion 5:30-8pm
- May 6: Prayer Shawl Meeting 7pm
- May 10 Bryon Dissinger’s Senior Piano Recital 7pm
- May 12: Children’s Day – No Sunday School  
         Confirmation Practice 10:45-11:30am Sanctuary
- May 13: Praise Band Concert 7pm
- May 14: Trustees Meeting 7pm
- May 15: SPPRC Meeting 6pm
- May 18: Drive-Thru Meal Giveaway Noon

### SHAVERTOWN UMC WEEKLY RECURRING REGULAR EVENTS & ACTIVITIES:

Sundays	9:30am	Worship
	10:30am	Sunday School for Children and Adults (last day May 19)
	11:30am	God’s Handful
<hr/>		
Mondays	1-3pm	Women’s Bible Study
	7pm	Praise Band (Concert 2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday of the Month)
<hr/>		
Tuesdays	8am	Men’s Ecumenical Breakfast @ Apple Tree Terrace
	10am	Coffee & Conversation @ McDonalds, Shavertown
	4:30pm	Children of Light (Grades 2 <sup>nd</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup> )
	5:00pm	Chapel Chimes (Grades 2 <sup>nd</sup> - 5 <sup>th</sup> )
	6pm	Good News Ringers
	7pm	Men’s Bible Study - Zoom
<hr/>		
Wednesdays	9am	Prayer on Zoom
	7pm	AA Meeting, Social Hall
	7:30pm	Chancel Choir (Adults)
<hr/>		
Thursdays	6:30pm	Grief Share, Lounge
	7pm	AA Book Discussion Meeting, Social Hall
	7pm	Connected in Christ, HS Sunday School Room
<hr/>		
Fridays	10am	Community Care Cabinet
<hr/>		
Saturdays	5:30pm	Worship

## 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.

---

---

**OUR JOYS:** Sunday school students donated \$56.60 to Alima! Great job kids! With all our donations we met our goal for Alima's tuition this year.

**ALWAYS BE IN PRAYER FOR:** The United Methodist Church, Our Country, People of Ukraine, Victims in Israel & Gaza, 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, Melanie Cardillo, The Oberst Family, Kurt Maas, Wim Ney, The Family of Jean Linker

*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  
LT. Joey Zobel, U.S.N., Washington, DC.

Travis Butler, US Navy Reserves  
Maj. Erika Reese, US Army, Ft. Benning, GA  
Captain Michael T. Shutlock, US Air Force  
1st LT. Allen Carson, 109th US Army  
Reserves, Phila.  
Sgt. Brandon Pall, Army, Maryland  
Rick Hodle III, US Army  
Jon Laity, US Navy, Japan  
CPL Michael Biesecker, USMC Reserves  
Daniel Cochran, US Navy, S.C.

**Think of this Friend** (with cards and prayers)

Bonnie Major, 94 Kirkendall Rd., Shavertown, Pa. 18708