



Shavertown United Methodist Church

# Feeling Helpless



July 6 & 7, 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.

# 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

## Helping with Worship today:

Greeters/Ushers: Cathy & John Nicks (Sat) Margi Esopi & Sandy Michalisin (Sun)  
Acolyte: Makayla K. & Landon H. (Sun) | Liturgists: TBD (Sat) Glenda Shepherd (Sun)

(\* indicates please stand if you are able)

### PRELUDE

“The Battle Hymn of the Republic”  
“America, The Beautiful”

Piano: Nancy Evans (Sat)  
Arr. Stephen DeCesare  
Trombone Solo: Landon H. (Sun)

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### CENTERING MEDITATION

“I am convinced one of the joys of heaven will be discovering the hidden ways that God, in His sovereignty, acted in our lives on earth to protect us and guide us, so as to bring glory to His name, in spite of our faith.”

Billy Graham

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

TBD (Sat) Glenda (Sun)

Raise your hands,  
**Lift your voices,**  
Put a smile on your face,  
**For God is good.**  
Clap your hands,  
**Say “Amen,”**  
Greet your neighbor,  
**For God is here for each person.**  
Clasp another’s hand,  
**Embrace a friend,**  
Let us worship God with joy,  
**For God’s love shines through.**

### \*OPENING HYMN

“Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

#400

**\*OPENING PRAYER**

TBD (Sat) Glenda (Sun)

**Most merciful Father, send your heavenly blessings upon this your Church, that all its members may dwell together in unity and love. Keep far from us all self-will and discord. Endue your pastors with righteousness, and enable them faithfully to fulfill their ministry, to bring again the outcasts, and to seek the lost. And grant to us so to receive their ministrations, and to use your means of grace, that in all our words and deeds we may seek your glory and the advancement of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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**

"Just a Closer Walk With Thee"

#2158

*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**

**CALL TO OFFERING**

**GIFT OF MUSIC**

"You Raise Me Up"

By R. Loveland & B. Graham (Sun)

Cello Solo: Katie K.

**\*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**

TBD (Sat) Glenda (Sun)

**O God, most merciful and gracious, of whose bounty we have all received, accept this offering of your people. Remember in your love those who have brought it and those for whom it is given, and so follow it with your blessing that it may promote peace and good will among all peoples and advance the kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

<b>GIFT OF MUSIC</b>	“Shine, Jesus, Shine ”	By Graham Kendrick (Sun) Vocal Duet: Katie & Makayla K.
<b>WORD OF GOD</b>	2 Corinthians 12:5-10 & Mark 6:1-6a Pg . 185 & 40 Respectively	TBD (Sat) Glenda (Sun)
<b>MESSAGE</b>	“Feeling Helpless”	Pastor Jon
<b>HYMN</b>	“Spirit of the Living God”	#393
<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b>		See Insert
<b>*HYMN OF GOING FORTH</b>	“The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve”	#2241
<b>*BENEDICTION</b>		
<b>*POSTLUDE</b>	“There Is a Balm in Gilead/Holy, Holy, Holy”	Traditional Spiritual Piano: 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!**



## COMMUNION LITANY

### INVITATION

When Jesus sat at tables and broke bread with tax collectors, lawyers, rich elites, and poor peasants, he proclaimed that God's gracious love and abiding presence knows no bounds. Through these occasions of sharing food, women and men experienced God, and shared in God's Kingdom. A Kingdom where: all are welcome, worthy, and invited; lives are transformed and empowered; and the fruits of God's gentle justice bloom throughout all Creation.

**All people, including each of us, are invited to share in this sacred meal of celebration, and be strengthened by the presence of God in this place.**

### PRAYER OF REMEMBRANCE

We remember that Jesus fed over 5,000 hungry people with five loaves of bread and two fish. At this miraculous meal, there was such an abundance of food that everyone ate until they were full – and there were even twelve baskets of food left over.

**Holy God, we celebrate Your abundant care and solidarity, revealed in this meal.**

We remember that Jesus joined in a great banquet with Levi, the despised tax collector. And despite the complaints of some, Jesus welcomed Levi, and invited him to repent and enjoy a fresh beginning at life.

**Holy God, we celebrate Your transforming presence, revealed in this meal.**

We remember that while sharing a meal with Pharisees, Jesus welcomed a woman viewed as an outsider. As the woman anointed his feet with oil, Jesus declared her dignity before everyone at the meal.

**Holy God, we celebrate Your gracious inclusiveness, revealed in this meal.**

At these meals, Jesus and the women and men disciples revisited the divisions, injustice, and violence of society. They lived out an alternative reality.....

## **LIFTING OF THE ELEMENTS**

Therefore, Holy God, in the sharing of this bread and juice, we joyfully celebrate the hope-inspiring ministry and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Gracious God may this meal, for us, be an Emmaus meal, where we encounter your presence in the sharing of this food, as the disciples did at their meal in Emmaus. May the sharing of this food also be a taste of your Kingdom, Holy God, so we may be strengthened to be your joyful and hopeful disciples. And may we share in your Kingdom of love, justice, and mutuality with those around us. **Amen!**

## **BLESSING**

Holy God, bless each of us, and the meal we share, so we may be: opened to your abiding presence; nourished by your gracious love; and strengthened by your resurrection power.  
**Amen.**

## **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.**

## **SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP**

## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**Amazing God, thank you for your presence in this place. We also thank you for giving us a taste of your Kingdom in this meal. Please use this food to strengthen us to be our joyful and hopeful Resurrection Community, sharing and experiencing your Kingdom of love, justice, and mutuality. Flow through us, healing God. Amen!**

# 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.

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## MISSION & MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:** “Camp Firelight: A Summer Camp Adventure with God” VBS is Mon., July 15<sup>th</sup> through Thurs., July 18<sup>th</sup>. Dinner is 5:15pm, Program is 6-8pm. All children just finishing 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 and FOOD DONATIONS NEEDED:** We still need adult and youth volunteers for VBS on July 15 – 18. We hope you will consider helping to make this important community outreach 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 in the Narthex or you can register as a volunteer on the church website. We also need donations of food for VBS, please sign up in the narthex to bring something that the children can enjoy at dinner.

**HOAGIE SALE:** For the next few weeks, coupons can be purchased for \$9 for J & J Hoagies from Mary Ellen Pajor on Saturday or Kim Donlin on Sunday before or after worship. Take a night off from cooking.

**SUMMER BIBLE DAY:** All children are invited to join us for a Summer Bible Day! On July 14<sup>th</sup> we will be having a bible story, crafts, games, and snacks after Children's Chat. Parents, please pick your children up immediately following worship at 10:30am.

**PRAISE IN THE PARK:** Trucksville UMC will offer a gathering at Francis Slocum State Park near Pavilion 3 and the boat launch on the following Saturdays: July 6 @ 9am, July 20 @ 1pm, Aug.3 @9am and Aug 17 @1pm. The focus will center of each piece of “the armor” and its significance in the battle against evil. For more information email [office@trucksvilleumc.com](mailto:office@trucksvilleumc.com).

**STUDY/MISSION OPPORTUNITY:** Join Pastor Jon and other UM's on a South-Central Mexico study mission trip October 4-13, 2024, with “Give Ye Them To Eat” – a rural development mission of the UMC of Mexico. More information to follow or contact Pastor Jon Buxton at [jbuxton@susumc.org](mailto:jbuxton@susumc.org) or check out [www.gytte.org](http://www.gytte.org).

**PRAY FOR ALIMA:** Alima's education at Ecole Renaissance Des Sourds in Senegal has come to a close. THANK YOU to everyone who has supported Alima's education throughout the years. Please PRAY for her as she remains in school for an extra month to study for the final exams.

## **RESPONDING TO GENERAL CONFERENCE CHANGES:**

The recently postponed 2020 General Conference was indeed historic and there is a lot of information to unpack. One of the decisions regarding same sex marriages impacts local churches. The Trustees of each church have been charged with determining policy as to whether same gender marriages can take place in their buildings. To help our congregation understand some of the changes made at General conference and to gather input for the Trustees, the Church Council has proposed the following plan:

1. Post General Conference Webinar Video available to everyone online, link sent in e-mail
2. Post General Conference Q & A Sessions ( Final Session **July 7 @ 10:30am**)
3. A mailed survey sent out to gather input from congregation. (**August 4** collection deadline)
4. Trustees receive congregational input and develop a Building Use Policy for Church Council.

We hope you will watch the video at home and attend at least one of the Post General Conference Q & A Sessions in order to make an informed decision as you participate in the congregational survey. Your participation and input will be extremely helpful as our church leadership creates an updated Building Use Policy. Thank You.



## UPCOMING AND WEEKLY EVENTS July 7-JULY 20

July 10: SPPRC Meeting 6pm

July 13: Boat House Bash 3pm

July 15-18: VBS Week

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

Sundays	9:30am	Worship
Mondays	1-3pm	Women's Bible Study
Tuesdays	8am	Men's Ecumenical Breakfast @ Apple Tree Terrace
	10am	Coffee & Conversation @ McDonalds, Shavertown
Wednesdays	9am	Prayer on Zoom
	7pm	AA Meeting, Social Hall
Thursdays	7pm	AA Book Discussion Meeting, Social Hall
Fridays	10am	Community Care Cabinet
Saturdays	5:30pm	Worship at the Pavilion

### NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP HELP FOR JULY 13-14

**Greeters & Ushers:** Frank & Linda Gruver (Sat) The Storm Family (Sun)

**Liturgist:** TBD (Sat) Margi Esopi (Sun) **Acolyte:** Madison W.

**July Altar Guild:** Bev Bunney & Margi Esopi

**Trustee Week of July 7:** Joe Kopalek **Trustee Week of July 14:** Brad Wall

**Finances:** Weekly Financial Goal: \$6,450 Week of June 29-30: \$4,528

**Faithfulness in Attendance:** June 29-30: In Person Worship 115 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 trip to Sight & Sound to see Daniel!

**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, Andy L., Carter Thompson, Charley, Carol Broehl, Jim Petrie, Mary & Ron Demko, Alex, Phil, Jim Laubach, Sean Bowers,

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

**PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY:**

Maj. Shannon Dzurly 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)  
Al Billings, 19 Old Grandview Ave., Dallas, Pa. 18612