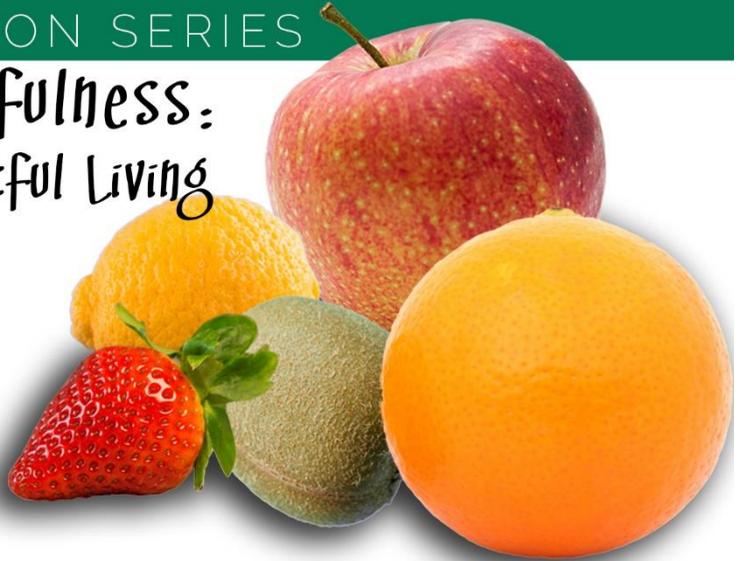


AUGUST SERMON SERIES

*Cultivating Fruitfulness:  
Five Practices of Fruitful Living*

- *Extravagant  
Generosity*



September 2 & 3, 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 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.

# Cultivating Fruitfulness Week 5 of Five Practices of Fruitful Living

## Helping with Worship today:

Greeters/Ushers: Bev Atherholt (Sat) Alice & Danny Peters (Sun)  
Acolyte: Isabella W (Sun) | Liturgists: TBD (Sat) Mary Ellen Pajor (Sun)

(\* indicates please stand if you are able)

### PRELUDE

“Indescribable with Morning Has Broken”

Arr. Carol Tornquist (Sat)

Keyboard: Nancy Evans

“Declaration”

By Fenton Groden (Sun)

Organ: Nancy Evans

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### CENTERING MEDITATION

Strive for his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Luke 12:31, 34

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

TBD (Sat) Mary Ellen (Sun)

Come, people of God, now is the time to worship.

**We come knowing that we will be welcome here.**

Come, ready to put your heart, soul, mind, and strength into worshipping God.

**We come seeking ways to grow closer to God and to deepen our faith.**

Come, ready to be called and stretched into new and significant ways of mission and service.

**We come with hearts to love and hands to share.**

**We come with a spirit of Extravagant Generosity and joy!**

### \*OPENING HYMN

“Nothing Between”

#373

Vs. 1-3

### \*OPENING PRAYER

TBD (Sat) Mary Ellen (Sun)

**Source of Life and All That Is, Giver of Every Good Gift, we are humbled and amazed by your generosity. You have blessed our lives with so much – the breath of life and the grace of salvation. Teach us, O God, to pass on your generosity. Help us to be joyful givers. Make us good stewards of all with which we have been entrusted. For the work of the Kingdom and the future of your church, enable us to give of our first fruits and not just from our leftovers.**

**In Christ’s name we pray. 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** "Spirit of the Living God" #393  
*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.  
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**CALL TO OFFERING**

**GIFT OF MUSIC** "Simple Gifts/Pachelbel's Canon" Shaker Tune/J. Pachelbel  
Duet: Emma & Rebecca Oley

**\*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) Mary Ellen (Sun)  
**Generous God, you have given us many gifts and drawn us together into Christ's body, the church. You have blessed us with generous and cheerful spirits. May the gifts of our money, time, and talents support the ministry of your church. Amen.**

**WORD OF GOD** Luke 12:13-21, 31-34 TBD (Sat) Mary Ellen (Sun)  
Pg 74 & 75

**HYMN OF PREPARATION** "Seek Ye First" #405

**MESSAGE** "Cultivating Fruitfulness: Extravagant Generosity" Pastor Jon  
Week 5 of Five Practices of Fruitful Living

# HOLY COMMUNION

## THE INVITATION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, giver of all good gifts: We confess that we have not been good stewards of the life and strength you have given to us. You have provided us with sound minds, but we have been careless about what we put into them, then are surprised when so little comes out of them. We have abused the health and strength of our bodies with harmful habits and poor choices. We have starved our spirits of daily nourishment from your Word. Although you have equipped each of us with talents and abilities meant for building your kingdom, we have not so used them. We are sorry for closing our eyes to the needs all around us and not responding with a spirit of generosity. Forgive us for being slow to seek your will and reluctant to follow it when we do. Empower us with the energy of your own Spirit, that we may become the people you have called us to be. Amen.

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise. . .**

### 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.

### SHARING OF THE BREAD & CUP

### CONCLUDING PRAYER

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**HOLY COMMUNION**

See Insert

**GIFT OF MUSIC**

“Come, Be Fed”

By R.E. Schram & C. Staggers  
Trio: Emma, Rebecca & Rich Oley

**\*HYMN OF GOING FORTH**

“Take My Life, and Let It Be”

#399

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*POSTLUDE**

“Give Thanks”

By Henry Smith  
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!**



# 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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## MISSION & MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

**PARKING ANNOUNCEMENT:** Our main parking lot will be closed from September 4-9 in order for the resurfacing and line painting to be completed. Thank you for your patience.

**GRIEF SHARE:** We are pleased to announce that our Grief Share group will begin meeting again. The class will start on September 7, 6:30-8pm. These sessions are helpful if you or anyone you know is grieving the loss of a loved one. Please call the church office for further information or to register at 570-675-3616.

**YOUTH GROUP CAR WASH/BAKE SALE:** Please support the SUMC Youth Group by coming to our car wash and bake sale at AutoZone in Dallas on Sept. 9, 10am-2pm. This fundraiser will help us to do service projects and to have some fun while growing in our faith through fellowship.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Our Sunday School program, Adventures in Faith, begins September 10 at 10:30am. Children preschool through 12<sup>th</sup> grade can register for class online at the church website or see Brenda Kopalek for a registration form.

**GOLF TOURNAMENT:** Our 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament Fundraiser will be held at Huntsville Golf Club on Monday, September 11 at 10am. Volunteers are needed. Please contact Nick Michalisin at 570-814-0127.

**CELEBRATION OF CREATION:** Our rescheduled Spring Music Concert will be Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> at 3:00pm. Reserve this date for us! Join our SUMC Choirs as they share an afternoon of glorious Christian music as we praise God, our Creator! Free Will Offering accepted and a "Sweet Ice Cream Social" following the concert.

**INVITATION:** Do you love to sing in the shower or the car? Well then, come and join one of our choirs starting in September 2023. We have everything from Choral to Instrumental to Bell Choirs from 4-year-olds to 100+. We have an exciting Praise Band that puts on concerts every month. Sign-ups available at the Ministry Fair or see Nancy Evans.

**CONFIRMATION:** Any youth in grades 8 through 12 interested in Confirmation for 2023/2024 should e-mail [shavertownumc@susumc.org](mailto:shavertownumc@susumc.org) or call the church office.

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

**CATHOLIC CHORAL SOCIETY:** The 75<sup>TH</sup> season of the Catholic Choral Society will begin rehearsals on Tuesday, September 5 from 6:15pm to 8:30pm at the IHM Center at Marywood University. New members are welcome, and no auditions are required. The first concert will be held Sunday, November 12 at 4pm at the University of Scranton.

**ORGAN RECITAL:** The United Methodist Church of Pittston is hosting an organ recital on Sunday, September 10 at 2pm. Numerous local renowned organists will play on the 1903 C.E. Morey pipe organ and there is no admission charge to attend.

**BIBLE STORIES FOR GROWN-UPS:** This is a 6 lesson bible study that looks at familiar bible stories that many has read as children and reveals new details and interpretations for adults. Pastor Dave Walker will be offering this study beginning September 21<sup>st</sup> at Dallas UMC from 10am until noon and at Alderson UMC from 1-3pm. Please contact Dallas UMC office at 570-675-0122 by Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> if you are interested.

**Finances:** Weekly Financial Goal: \$6,450 Week of Aug 26-27: \$3,354

**Faithfulness in Attendance:** Aug 26-27 In Person Worship 128, Online Worship 3

# UPCOMING AND WEEKLY EVENTS

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## THIS WEEK'S UPCOMING EVENTS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 3:

September 4: Labor Day -Closed

September 5: Prayer Shawl Ministry 7pm

September 6: Mission & Outreach Meeting 6:30pm

September 9: Youth Group Car Wash 10am-2pm Autozone

## NEXT WEEK'S UPCOMING EVENTS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 10:

September 10: Youth Group Leaders Meeting 11:30am

September 11: Golf Tournament 10am Huntsville Golf Club

September 12: Trustee Meeting 7pm

## SHAVERTOWN UMC WEEKLY EVENTS & ACTIVITIES:

These are recurring, regular events & activities.

Sundays 9:30am Worship

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Mondays 1-3pm Women's Bible Study  
Praise Band Rehearsal (Concert 2nd Monday)

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Tuesdays 8 am Men's Ecumenical Breakfast @ Apple Tree Terrace  
10am Coffee & Conversation @ McDonalds, Shavertown

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

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Thursdays 7pm AA Book Discussion Meeting, Social Hall  
6:30pm Grief Share, Lounge

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Fridays 10am Community Care Cabinet

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Saturday 5:30pm Worship – Pavilion

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## NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP HELP FOR SEPTEMBER 9-10:

**Greeters & Ushers:** Mary Ellen Pajor (Sat) Bev Bunney & Kim Donlin (Sun)

**Liturgist:** Sarah Church (Sat) TBD (Sun) **Acolyte:** Abby J.

**September Altar Guild:** Mary Ellen Pajor & Cathy Nicks

**Trustee Week of Sept 3:** Larry Schuler **Trustee Week of Sept 10:** Charlie Kishbaugh

# 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.

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**OUR JOYS:** Fun at the Ministry Fair and Church Picnic

**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, Victims of the Maui Wildfires, John (Father of Theresa Havel), Wilmer & Arlene Wagner, Art, Phyllis Bullock, Maggie, Family of Bob Osgood, Marilyn Wesley, Jack Chapple, Al, Tina Navestad, Family of David Barnes (Brother of Margi Esopi), , The Gribble Family, The Family of Peggy Evans, Patty Watkins, Jim & Shirley, 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

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, 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)

Marilyn & Fred Ostrum, 97 E. Franklin St., Shavertown, Pa. 18708