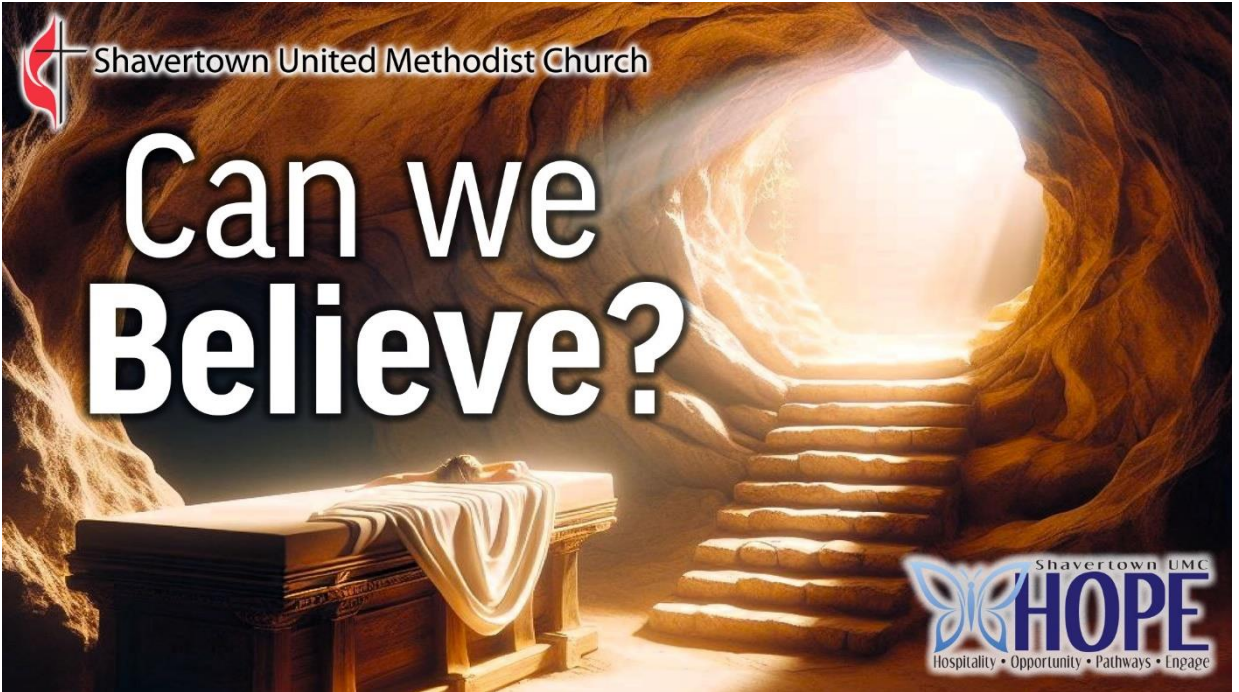




Shavertown United Methodist Church

Can we Believe?



April 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.

2nd Sunday of Easter

Helping with Worship today:

Greeters/Ushers: Deb & Ray Poremba (Sat) Mardy Shepherd & Joe Liskosky (Sun)

Acolyte: Madisen B. & Abby J. (Sun) | Liturgists: Ellie Hottenstein (Sat) Cindy Biesecker (Sun)

(* indicates please stand if you are able)

PRELUDE

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

Arr. Bill Wolaver
Piano: Nancy Evans

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING MEDITATION

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.

Do you believe this?"

John 11:25-26

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Ellie (Sat) Cindy (Sun)

Peace be with you.

And also with you.

As we enter into God's presence, God calls us by name and invites us to believe.

We believe, O God. Help our unbelief!

As we enter into Christ's resurrection story, Christ offers us the fullness of life everlasting.

May we live our faith with the fullness of hope and joy!

As we enter into this time of worship, the Spirit blesses us with a holy calling.

**May we live as disciples, serve as Jesus served, love as God loves,
and offer salvation as Christ has offered salvation to us.**

*OPENING HYMN

“Christ Is Alive”

#318

*OPENING PRAYER

Ellie (Sat) Cindy (Sun)

**Christ, our living hope, breathe your Spirit upon us. Fill us with your faith and love,
that we may believe and live the Easter miracle. Help us so to believe where we have not
seen that others will see in us the living Christ, arisen and changing the world even today.**

In faith and hope, we pray. Amen.

CHILDREN'S CHAT

"Where Children Belong"

#2233 (Sun)

*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**

"He Is Lord"

#177

*He is Lord, he is Lord! He is risen from the dead and he is Lord! Every knee shall bow,
every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**CALL TO OFFERING****GIFT OF MUSIC**

"Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord!"

Arr. Ralph M. Johnson
Chancel & God's Handful

***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**

Ellie (Sat) Cindy (Sun)

Our hearts are glad, O God, as we rejoice in your Easter miracle. We come with gratitude and joy for the many gifts you have given, but most of all for the gift of Christ living amongst us still. Bless these gifts we return to you, that they may become gifts of new life to those who are haunted by signs of death: despair, poverty, sorrow, violence, and loneliness. Help us live the Easter miracle, that we may ourselves be signs of resurrection hope for others. In the name of the risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

WORD OF GOD

John 20:19-31
Pg 115

Ellie (Sat) Cindy (Sun)

MESSAGE

"Can We Believe?"

Pastor Jon

HYMN	“We Walk By Faith” Vs. 1-3	#2196
HOLY COMMUNION		(see insert)
*HYMN OF GOING FORTH	“Trust and Obey” Vs. 1, 2 & 4	#467
*BENEDICTION	<p>As God sent Jesus into the world, so Jesus sends us forth this day. We go forth with the power of the Holy Spirit and the hope of the Easter story. Go now in peace and love. May we show and share this miraculous gift with everyone we meet.</p>	
*POSTLUDE	“Festive Postlude on Truro”	By Mary McDonald Organ: 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.

SHAVERTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

163 North Pioneer Avenue, Shavertown, PA 18708

P: 570-675-3616 | E: shavertownumc@susumc.org | www.shavertownumc.com

Pastor: Rev. Jon Buxton

P: 570-675-6412 | E: 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!



HOLY COMMUNION

THE INVITATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Ever-present God, we want to know you; we want to see you; we want to believe and trust you. Help our unbelief. Reveal your presence in our lives and in our world. Guide us to live as children of hope and faith, that we may truly experience the gift of resurrection. Help us to follow your teachings. Help us to believe that we can be more loving, just, and holy just like you. Change us by the power of your transforming love.

[Silent Prayer]

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. 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

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

SUPPORT ALIMIA: Our fundraiser to support Alima who is a deaf young lady from West Africa will take place during the month of April. We have been her primary source of tuition, room, and board since she was 6 years old. She is now preparing to start her vocational training. Look for donation envelopes in the Narthex. Collection ends April 28.

NEW MEMBERSHIP CLASS: We will be offering a new membership class on April 7, 14, and 21 at 10:30am following worship for those who are interested joining Shavertown UMC or would just like to learn a little bit more about Methodism. Please contact the church office at 570-675-3616 or shavertownumc@susumc.org or speak to Pastor Jon if you are interested.

PRISCILLA CIRCLE: On Tuesday, April 16, Priscilla Circle will host Denise Ogurkis, president of the Luzerne County Chapter of Sleep in Heavenly Peace which is an organization that provides beds and bedding for children in need. Everyone is invited to learn more about this important work including their "Build Day" on May 18. Circle members should bring their lunch and arrive at noon. Program starts at 1pm. For more information contact Cathy Berkey at 570-709-2338.

SPRING CLEAN-UP: Help is needed to beautify the church grounds April 20, 10am-2pm. Please come with tools in hand to help pull weeds, lay down mulch and ready the flower beds for new flowers. We also need pick-up trucks to load the mulch.

WELSH COOKIE SALE: Welsh cookies will be for sale after worship on April 20 & 21. Cost is \$5 for 10 cookies. There are no pre-orders.

SOUP SALE: We are in need of soup donations for our sale on Election Day, Tuesday, April 23. We will be selling 12 ounce containers for \$5. A sign-up sheet will be located in the narthex. We are also in need of volunteers to work a 2 hour shifts that day.

PASTORS CHOIR CONCERT: Chi Rho Singers from the Susquehanna Conference Pastors Choir will perform at Forty-Fort UMC on Thursday, April 25 at 7pm.

GERANIUM SALE: Geraniums will be for sale after Easter until April 26. Cost is 4 for \$15 for 4.5" pots in your choice of colors. Make checks out to SUMC and reference geranium sale in the memo. Order forms will be available in the bulletin & Narthex. Purchased vouchers will be available after worship on April 27 & 28 to be redeemed at Darling's Nursery in Dallas from May 9-31. Proceeds go to the church's General Fund.

MUSIC NOTES: On Sun., April 28th at 6:00pm, enjoy an evening of beautiful music called "Music Makes the World Go Round" by our SUMC choirs with handbells, chimes, brass, piano & organ. The concert is free and open to the public. A free will offer will be accepted. An Ice Cream Social will follow in the Social Hall.

GERTRUDE HAWK FUNDRAISER: The SUMC Youth Group is doing a Gertrude Hawk candy bar fundraiser. We have milk chocolate, crispy, caramel, peanut butter, and dark chocolate raspberry candy bars, \$2.00/each.

SIGHT AND SOUND TRIP: There is still time to sign up or invite friends and family on our Sight and Sound Theatre trip to Lancaster, Pa. on July 3, 2024, to see "Daniel".

Bus #1 – Full

Bus #2 – 24 Seats Left

Ages 13 & up...\$180/person Ages 12 & under ...\$120/person.

\$100 by April 21 to hold your spot, remainder due by May 12

Please make checks out to SUMC and turn in to Amy Kelly or Brenda Kopalek

BIRTHDAY TEA: Our annual birthday tea will take place on Sunday, May 5th in the Social Hall at 1pm. Tables are decorated for each month of the year. If you are interested in decorating a table, please contact Sandy Michalisin or Sue Holdredge. This event is for all women of the church and community. What a great opportunity for conversation and fellowship.

NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP HELP FOR APRIL 13-14

Greeters & Ushers: Cathy & John Nicks (Sat) Peggy & Larry Schuler (Sun)

Liturgist: TBD (Sat) Margi Esopi (Sun) **Acolyte:** Anna J

April Altar Guild: Sandy Michalisin & Sue Holdredge

Trustee Week of April 7: Tom Ketchner **Trustee Week of April 14:** Brian Wilson

Finances: Weekly Financial Goal: \$6,450 Week of Mar.30-31: \$8,000

Faithfulness in Attendance: Mar.30-31: In Person Worship 267 Online Worship 35

UPCOMING AND WEEKLY EVENTS APRIL 7-APRIL 20

April 7: Confirmation Meeting 3:30-5:30pm

April 9: Home Communion Training 7pm

April 11: Staff Meeting 11am

April 14: Youth Group 4-6pm

April 16: Priscilla Circle Noon

Finance Meeting 5pm

Worship Meeting 7:30pm

April 20: Spring Clean-Up 10am-2pm

SHAVERTOWN UMC WEEKLY RECURRING REGULAR EVENTS & ACTIVITIES:

Sundays 9:30am Worship

10:30am Sunday School for Children and Adults

11:30am God's Handful

Mondays 1-3pm Women's Bible Study

7pm Praise Band (Concert 2nd Monday of the Month)

Tuesdays 8am Men's Ecumenical Breakfast @ Apple Tree Terrace

10am Coffee & Conversation @ McDonalds, Shavertown

4:30pm Children of Light (Grades 2nd – 5th)

5:00pm Chapel Chimes (Grades 2nd- 5th)

6pm Good News Ringers

7pm Men's Bible Study - Zoom

Wednesdays 9am Prayer on Zoom

7pm AA Meeting, Social Hall

7:30pm Chancel Choir (Adults)

Thursdays 6:30pm Grief Share, Lounge

7pm AA Book Discussion Meeting, Social Hall

7pm Connected in Christ, HS Sunday School Room

Fridays 10am Community Care Cabinet

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: The hope in the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ!

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, Dylan, Ernest Fountain, Thomas Bridget Frame, Florian, Glenda Shepherd, Dana, Paul, Sandy Split Morris, Family of Dorothy Carrol, Aunt Kathy & Family, Family of Nancy Liskosky, Jeff Kopalek, Jim Petrie.

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)

Anne Jewel, 52 W. Center St., Shavertown, Pa. 18708