

*Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world.*

In The Vine

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Please submit copy to:

Caitlyn Dunn
UMC Vine@gmail.com

Deadline for Copy:

15th of the month prior to
publication. Editor reserves
the right to edit for space

Secondhand Heaven Community Yard Sale

Saturday May 3rd from 9am - 1pm

Shavertown United Methodist Church will be holding a community yard sale in our parking lot at 163 N. Pioneer Avenue. Vendor spaces are available for **\$25 each**, and will be a 10'x10' space behind your vehicle. Vendors are responsible for their own tables, tents, and chairs - no electricity available. Set up begins at 8am and all vendors must be set up by 8:30am.

Please call the church office at **570-675-3616**
to reserve your space!

Light refreshments will be available

Rain or Shine!



SHAVERTOWN
UNITED
METHODIST

163 N. Pioneer Ave.
Shavertown PA 18708
(570) 675-3616
shavertownumc@susumc.org

Pastor:

Jon Buxton

Office Manager:

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SUMC Website:

www.shavertownumc.com



Please join us for our annual spring concert! Our choirs, Praise Band, bell ringers, and brass will be sharing a blend of classical and contemporary music celebrating all of God's creations!

A free will offering will be taken and an ice cream social reception will follow.

May 18, 2025 at 7PM

shavertown united methodist church
fine arts
concert series
spreading the good news through the gift of music

Shavertown United Methodist Church
163 N. Pioneer Ave, Shavertown, PA 18708

From the Pastor

May 2025

“He isn’t here! He is risen from the dead, just as he said would happen. Come, see where his body was lying. And now, go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and he is going ahead of you to Galilee.” (Matthew 28:6-7a)

My wife and I have just begun the tedious process of packing as we anticipate our move into retirement status. It’s a daunting task that can be physically and emotionally draining. While sorting and packing boxes my mind begins to wander to what will happen after the boxes are unpacked. What will my life look like as I begin a new role as a retired pastor? What’s next on the horizon?

What’s next? I’m sure that was what all the disciples wondered when they first heard of the resurrection. The disciples weren’t fully prepared for what would happen after Good Friday. It was a shock to lose their rabbi that they had followed for three years. . . and the way that they lost him – to the horrible death of Roman crucifixion. Then, that Sunday morning the women came and told them that Jesus wasn’t dead in the tomb. What a shock and yet joyful news. But what next?

The women were also told that Jesus was going on ahead of them to Galilee. So maybe they weren’t left without direction after all. So, the disciples make the trip to Galilee. I’m sure it was a long one as they wondered if the story of his resurrection were really true, and if they would really see Jesus.

The resurrection story that we celebrate on Easter Sunday is a story of surprise and confusion and then hope. Like the disciples who first heard the news we may have mixed emotions at Easter. We certainly love to hear the songs of praise that we sing on Easter Sunday, “Christ the Lord is Risen Today.” We like to feel the energy and share the springtime excitement with others. We like to hear again that we need not fear death, but we also may wonder, “What’s next after Easter Sunday?” “What’s next for my life now?”

In the account in Matthew we see that once the disciples get to Galilee says that they do see him and they worshipped him, and some still doubted. And the disciples get their final instructions.

“Go to the people of all nations and make them my disciples. Baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and teach them to do everything I have told you. I will be with you always, even until the end of the world.” (Matthew 28:19-20 CEV) So, that’s what we are to do. That’s what’s next.

Like the disciples in that we often have mixed reactions to twisting turns of life. Sadness one minute, joy the next, and most of the time we just seem to bumble along not sure where to turn next. But as disciples of Jesus we are given instructions to help us move forward as Easter people, as followers of the risen Christ. We are given a mission. We are to follow the way of Jesus and help others hear the story and help them become followers too. Jesus says “make them my disciples” and “teach them everything I have told you.” That’s our “What next.”

As fellow followers who worship together and sometimes have our share of doubts about the future, may we be faithful in carrying out the Easter message of hope as the church. And may we always remember that Jesus promises to be with us “even to the end of the world.”

Your fellow servant on the journey,
Pastor Jon

Sunday School

Sunday School Classes for Children & Adults
10:30 – 11:30am

Each step we take with God is an *Adventure in Faith*. For more information, please contact Brenda Kopalek at kadec23@hotmail.com.

Adult Classes & Groups

We continue to offer exciting classes with opportunities to grow in our faith with a chance for fellowship and fun. We hope you will consider joining a class. Please talk to the class facilitator (Rich Oley - Adult Sunday School, Mary Ellen Pajor - Women's Bible Study) for more information about their newest study!

Acolyte Schedule

May 4 - McKenna Klemish
May 11 - Nina Pupa
May 18 - Madison West
May 25 - Owen Ostrowski
June 1 - Makayla Kelly & Ella Banta



The High School Sunday School class is learning about the gospel of Matthew.

They are reading scripture and making ornaments for all of the major events of Jesus' life. We hope you will enjoy following along with our lessons

described in the church bulletin and looking for the ornaments that we add each week to the Jesus Tree in the narthex.



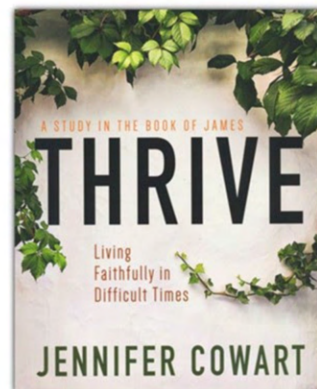
Children's Sunday School, Preschool - 12th Grade

The Sunday School teachers all hope the children have had a wonderful time in Sunday School this school year. We are going to miss them over the summer but look forward to seeing everyone back in September. **Our last day of Sunday School will be May 11th.**

Women's Bible Study – Mondays in the Lounge
1pm-3pm

Walking in Faith...even when times are tough.

In *Thrive*, author and teacher Jen Cowart helps women develop the habits and attitudes necessary to thrive, whatever their circumstances. Leading readers through the Book of James, a letter written about enduring hardships, she lifts up six characteristics of mature Christians. From endurance and humility to controlling our words, Jen helps participants find the divine and the practical in living faithfully.



Youth Group

CAR WASH



JUNE 7TH
10AM - 2PM
NEWELL FUEL



Class of 2025

May 4th: Confirmation Meeting and Celebration at the Pavilion from 4PM-7PM

June 1st: Confirmation practice after worship

June 8th: Confirmation during worship

Please contact the church office with the names and parent e-mail and phone number of any High School or College Graduates by May 11. We will recognize our graduates at church on Sunday, June 1st at the 9:30am worship.

Vacation Bible School



Now for what you've all been waiting for... the theme for Vacation Bible School... buckle up, we are going on a Road Trip with God and our cute dog, Scout! VBS will be held July 14-17 with dinner at 5:15pm and the program 6:00-8:00pm. Children preschool through 5th grade can register now, along with any adult or youth volunteers, at <https://shavertownumc.mycokesburyvbs.com/>. There is also a sign up in the Narthex to let us know that you want to help. Join us in this exciting opportunity for kids and volunteers to have fun as we set off to learn that God is with us wherever we go! This adventure includes exciting music, amazing science, creative crafts, fun recreation, and memorable Bible stories!

We will be having a planning meeting for Vacation Bible School on May 6th at 7pm in the Middle School Sunday School classroom. Please plan to share your progress in the program area you volunteered for, if possible (you do not need everything planned, we are here to help with that). Everyone looking to learn more about our VBS program are welcome to join us.

**Mark
Your
Calendar**

**Planning Meeting
May 6th at 7PM
Middle School Sunday
School Room**

*Sign up using
the QR Code!*



July 14th-17th 6PM-8PM

Dinner at 5:15PM

thankful, grateful & blessed



I can't thank everyone enough for the beautiful party and the amazing video of the children that was put together for me. I have absolutely loved being the Christian Education Director for Shavertown UMC. Watching the children having fun while growing in their faith is a memory that I will cherish forever. Many blessings, Brenda Kopalek

We want to thank Brad Lothridge for his many years of dedicated service to our church, we appreciate all that he has done. We will miss you!



Congratulation to the new members who recently joined the church: Kristen & Ryan Klemish (and their children McKenna & Brooke), Joan & Michael Laiman, Lorena Morgan, and Laura Nulton-Salsman (and her children Nina & Sterling). We're so happy to have them here!

Welcome!

We hope everyone who is signed up for the Sight and Sound trip is excited to see "Noah" on July 3, 2025. Final payment for the trip is due May 25th. Please write checks out to Shavertown UMC and give the payment to Brenda Kopalek or Amy Kelly. Cost - \$185 for those ages 13 and up Cost - \$125 for those ages 12 and under. Please make sure we have at least one e-mail address for your group to let you know about details of the trip as it gets closer.





YOUTH GROUP

**Mark
Your
Calendar**

**Youth Group Meeting
May 17th, 2PM-4PM
In The Social Hall**

The Youth had a lot of fun at the Orange UMC Escape Room in April! We had two groups compete to solve the mystery involving the bible story of David. We then went to Ballyhoo in West Pittston for some wonderful ice cream and enjoyed sweet treats at the old-fashioned country store candy shop!



Fruit of the Spirit Sunday Brunch

Shavertown United Methodist Church Youth Group Fundraiser

Serving brunch casseroles, eggs made to order, pancakes, linked sausage, baked ham, fresh fruit, a variety of breads, fruit crisp, coffee cake, hot and cold drinks, and more!



May 18, 2025 at 10:30AM

Adults: \$15

Children 12 and Under: \$6

163 N Pioneer Ave, Shavertown, PA 18708

Music Notes

Many thanks to all choirs for your long hours of practice in preparation for all our Lenten, Holy Week, and Easter Services. You are all greatly appreciated.



shavertown united methodist church fine arts concert series spreading the good news through the gift of music



Sunday, May 18th at 7PM - The Music of May

Please join us for our annual spring concert! Our choirs, Praise Band, bell ringers, and brass will be sharing a blend of classical and contemporary music celebrating all of God's creations! A free will offering will be taken, and an ice cream social reception will follow!



Wednesday, July 30th at 7PM - Tim Zimmerman and the King's Brass

Tim Zimmerman and The King's Brass will present a concert of patriotic music, big band favorites, marches, hymns with a contemporary flair, and more. Something for everyone, all are welcome! A love offering will be greatly appreciated.

Easter Eggstravaganza

The Easter Eggstravaganza was a great success with many children having fun and learning the Easter story! Thank you to all of the many volunteers and those who donated to the event! Community events like this would not be possible without your help!



Mission and Outreach

reaching out to our community



May 17, 2025 @ Noon - SUMC Parking Lot

The April meal is sloppy joe, carrots and celery, pasta salad, and dessert. Meals will be delivered to cars in the parking lot starting at noon on May 17th.

Shavertown UMC COMMUNITY CARE CABINET

Thank you to all who donated to our Lenten drives. We collected 150 items for the Community Care Cabinet and over 670 items for the

Nurses Cabinet. We are so grateful to all who donated. Because of your generosity we can continue our missions.





The prayer shawl yarners thank everyone who supported us in the Knit for Food knit-a-thon. Our team raised over \$900 and placed 131 out of 385 teams worldwide. Our next meeting is Monday, May 5th, at 7pm in the lounge. Lessons are available. Contact Cathy Berkey for more information at 570-709-2338.



**United
Women
in Faith**

Priscilla Circle will meet at noon on Tuesday, May 20th.

Because it is

Election Day, we will meet in the lounge. Carol Folk will share information on Rise Against Hunger. Hostess, Mary Ellen Pajor, will lead devotions. All women of the church are welcome to join us.

Praise Band Concerts



Monday 7PM
May 12, 2025
Shavertown UMC

Join us in person
or online
All are welcome!

Sunday 3PM
May 4, 2025
Forty Fort UMC

A free will offering will be accepted



We had three suspicious activity incidents at the church recently...



This poor groundhog got a jar stuck on his head and was seen roaming aimlessly around the church yard and in Pastor Jon's garage! We want to thank Kingston Township Officer Spencer who stopped traffic in front of the church to rescue our friend just as he was trying to cross the road!



Three very suspicious looking troublemakers were seen lurking around our shed one night! When confronted on what they were up to, they just went on and on about planning activities for the church, is anyone believing that?!?!?!? LOL!! If you know any individuals in this photo, be sure to thank them for all that they do!!!



These two crazy guys came to church claiming to be twins, I suppose it might be true???





2025 Susquehanna Annual Conference

The theme for the 2025 Susquehanna Annual Conference session is “Believe... and see the Glory of God.” SUMC delegates attending the May 29th-31st annual conference in Williamsport this year are Pastor Jon Buxton, Cindy Biesecker, and Marianne Wolf.

The 2020/2024 General Conference passed several proposed amendments to the Constitution of the United Methodist Church. These unique pieces of legislation can only become official if they are ratified by at least two-thirds affirmative vote of the aggregate members to the annual conferences. The results will not be known or announced until after all 127 United Methodist annual conferences in Africa, Europe, the Philippines, and the United States have voted. The four amendments to be considered are:

- Carrying out the restructuring plan called “regionalization”
- Expanding inclusiveness in church membership
- Standing against racism and colonialism
- Clarifying who can vote for clergy delegates

To provide information on the proposed changes and hear input from our members, the delegates will be holding two listening sessions (10:45 and 11:30am) in the Social Hall on Sunday, May 4th.

We are also collecting items for Mission Central Activity Kits. Our district has been assigned scissors (round or pointed) and 12-inch rulers of metal, wood, or plastic (must include both inches and centimeters.) Donations may be made in the Narthex through May 25th.

Then Jesus said, “Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?”
John 11:40



CHURCH is not something you go to. It's a **FAMILY** you belong to!

Happy Anniversary

Dave & Amy Kelly	05/06/2006	19 years	Tammie & Gary Morgan	05/22/1999	26 years
Amy & James Wood	05/16/2015	10 years	Florence Anne Berna	05/23/1992	33 years
Thomas & Mandy Ketchner	05/16/2023	2 years	John & Cathy Nicks	05/24/1985	40 years
Jon & Barb Buxton	05/17/1986	39 years	Heather & Thomas Canino	05/28/2016	9 years
Jackie & Michael Waslin	05/20/2016	9 years	Erik & Tracey Daniels	05/30/2009	16 years
Gene & Jennifer Ziemba	05/20/1995	30 years			

Join us in wishing Happy Birthday to those celebrating in May!

05/01 Joyce Lloyd	05/06 Katie Snedeker	05/14 Lynn Nattress	05/23 Deborah Poremba
05/02 Bill Runner	05/08 Christine Adams	05/14 Christin Snyder	05/23 Fred San Fanandre
05/04 Dylan Chapman	05/09 Alexandra Hackett	05/15 Adalyn Gutierrez	05/23 Christopher Vincelli
05/04 Courtney Hoats	05/09 Kelley Shedlock	05/18 Gary Biesecker	05/26 David Laity
05/04 Makenzie Hrivnak	05/09 Frank Ziegler	05/18 Charles Kishbaugh	05/26 Becky Stout
05/04 Caleb Stephens	05/10 Robert Glicini	05/18 Sylvia Maas	05/26 Tyler Tuck
05/04 Jordyn Shedlock	05/10 Linda Wagner	05/18 Anna Vincelli	05/26 Taylor Hodle
05/05 Allen Marrow	05/11 Phillip Brown	05/18 Tessa Liskosky	05/27 Jackie Lowe
05/05 Robert Marrow	05/12 Brian Navestad	05/19 Kaleb Konigus	05/27 Ryan Gruver
05/05 Peggy Schuler	05/12 Jenna Young	05/20 Dianne Nice	05/28 Aaron Harvatine
05/05 Sis Ertley	05/12 Mishka Anselmi-Dease	05/20 Adam Stofila	05/28 Lyndsey Swire
05/05 McKenna Klemish	05/13 Zachary Crahall	05/20 Colby Zern	05/28 Thomas Canino
05/06 Brad Lothridge	05/13 Joe Kopalek	05/21 Florence Anne Berna	05/29 Ashley Elick
05/06 Maria Maas	05/13 Ethan Trevaskis	05/21 Debbie Carey	05/29 William Lindley
05/06 Corey McAndrew	05/14 Lisa Evans	05/22 John Chapple	05/30 Diane Coslett
05/06 Jeff Shedlock	05/14 Mark Evans	05/22 Thomas Traver IV	05/30 Paula Glicini
05/06 Adam Sebastian	05/14 John Harvey	05/23 Phyllis Clemow	05/30 Kathleen Sebastian

Did we miss yours? Please email umcvine@gmail.com with your birth date or anniversary, including the year so our information is correct.

Shavertown UMC Upcoming Activities & Meetings

Weekly Events:

Worship Saturdays @ 5:30pm & Sundays @ 9:30am
Women's Bible Study Mondays @ 1pm
Men's Breakfast Tuesdays @ 8am
Coffee & Conversation Tuesdays @ 10am, Shavertown McDonalds
Prayer Group via zoom Wednesdays @ 9am
Grief Share Thursdays @ 6:30pm

Upcoming Team & Committee Meetings:

Mission & Outreach Wednesday, May 7th @ 6:30pm
Finance Tuesday, May 20th @ 4:45pm
Trustees Tuesday, May 20th @ 7pm
Worship Team Tuesday, May 27th @ 7:00pm
SPPRC Wednesday, May 28th @ 6pm

THE SHAVERTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
163 N. Pioneer Ave.
Shavertown PA 18708
Return Service Requested

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Dated Material — Please Deliver Promptly
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UPCOMING
EVENTS

- Tuesday, May 6th @ 7pm**
VBS Meeting
- Monday, May 12th @ 7pm**
Praise Band Concert
- Saturday, May 17th @ Noon**
Community Meal Giveaway
- Sunday, May 18th @ 10:30am**
Fruit of the Spirit Brunch
- Sunday, May 18th @ 7pm**
Fine Arts Spring Concert

Check it out... **Points of Interest!** 

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