



*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

Singing Valentines

*Let your loved ones know you're thinking of them by
sending them a Singing Valentine this Valentine's Day!*

More information on page 6!



\$6 per Singing
Valentine

shavertown umc
FUNDRAISING

**Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone
who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love
does not know God, because God is love." - 1 John 4: 7-8**



SHAVERTOWN
UNITED
METHODIST

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

Pastor:

Jim Hollister

Office Manager:

Sue Holdredge
(570) 675-3616

SUMC Website:

www.shavertownumc.com



February 18, 2026

ASH WEDNESDAY

**Contemplative Worship & Receiving of Ashes
Noon - 1PM at Shavertown UMC**

**Back Mountain Community Service
Receiving of Ashes & Communion
7PM at Dallas UMC**

LENTEN SERIES INTRODUCTION

Enough: Discovering Joy Through Simplicity and Generosity

One of Jesus' great teaching parables involves a sower who cast seed along the ground. The sower hoped the seeds would sprout, grow, and bear good fruit. Some seeds did just that, producing a great harvest. But others, Jesus said, fell among thorns and, though they began to grow, these good plants were quickly choked out. Jesus said the thorns were "the cares of the world and the lure of wealth" (Matthew 13:22).

In a culture where having "enough" seems to have become a never-ending pursuit, Jesus' parable remains incredibly relevant. Many of us are chasing the American dream in ways that lead to stress, anxiety, and fear—thorns that can rob us of the ability to enjoy the abundant lives of purpose that God intended for us.

All of us have struggled with these issues at one time or another. They are important issues that we cannot ignore. This is why, during Lent this year, we will be having a churchwide study and worship emphasis called *Enough: Discovering Joy Through Simplicity and Generosity*. During these weeks of prayer and introspection, we will explore what the Bible teaches us about financial management through corporate worship and small group study. (Visit <https://www.shavertownumc.com/> for details about small group study opportunities.) We'll hear expert advice and stories about what others have learned by working through financial challenges. Each week we will provide you with some practical tools you can use to assess your financial situation and develop a financial plan with a biblical

foundation, all focused on our relationship with our money and how that affects, for good or ill, our relationship with God.

As a part of this Lent, we will have the opportunity to make personal commitments of our offerings to God through our church in the coming year. We will consecrate these commitments during worship, offering them as prayers. As with all things financial, it will be powerfully personal. We will also have a time of celebration following Easter.

I hope you will join us this Lent as we look at how we can manage our financial resources and truly experience simplicity, generosity, and joy.

Grace to you and Peace,
Pastor Jim

Schedule of Lenten Events

February 18, 2026 - Ash Wednesday Contemplative Worship (Noon)

February 18, 2026 - Ash Wednesday Worship at Dallas UMC, 7pm

February 21-22, 2026 - "When Dreams Become Nightmares"

February 29-March 1, 2026 - "Wisdom and Finance"

March 7-8, 2026 - "Cultivating Contentment"

March 14-15, 2026 - "Defined by Generosity"

March 21-22, 2026 - "Called by a Generous God"

March 28-29, 2026 - Palm/Passion Sunday

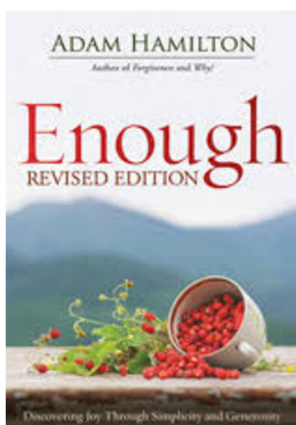
April 4-5, 2026 - Easter Sunday (Sunrise Worship @ SUMC, 6:30am)

Sunday School

Adult Classes & Groups

Please plan to join one of our Bible studies that will follow along with the message Pastor Jim gives each week during Lent, or you can pick up a book in the narthex and follow along on your own!

- Adult Sunday School - Sundays, 10:30am in the Lounge
- Women's Bible Study - Mondays, 1:00pm in the Lounge
- Thursday Bible Study - Thursdays, 7:00pm in the HS Sunday School Room



Money has great power in our lives. Used wisely, it is one key to accomplishing our goals, providing for our needs, and fulfilling our life purpose. In recent years, many of us ignored the wisdom of the past when it came to managing and spending our money. Credit

card debt soared, savings rates plummeted, and our home equity became something to be tapped into and spent rather than a source of security in retirement. We felt an insatiable desire for more. And we found ourselves spending tomorrow's money today in order to have what we hoped would satisfy. The result of all of this was not greater happiness and satisfaction, but greater stress and anxiety.

Enough is an invitation to rediscover the Bible's wisdom when it comes to prudent financial practices. In these pages are found the keys to experiencing contentment, overcoming fear, and discovering joy through simplicity and generosity. This book could change your life, by changing your relationship with money.



Children's Sunday School, Preschool - 12th Grade

The Simply Loved curriculum engages a natural sense of curiosity to help understand God's love. It creates a safe environment for children to ask questions — helping them explore the Bible in ways that feed their imagination and encourages creativity. Through carefully selected Bible stories and hands-on activities, it gives children the tools to explore their faith while incorporating it into their daily lives.



Since Valentine's Day is in February, it is only fitting that our Bible Buddy for this month is Miley, a roadrunner, who has a message of LOVE!

"Let your unfailing love surround us, Lord, for our hope is in you alone."
Psalm 33:22

Acolyte Schedule

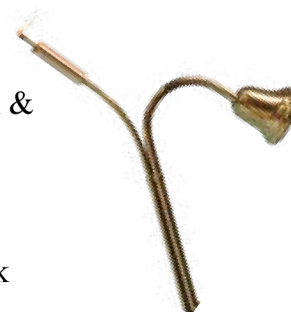
February 1 - Olivia Ostrowski & Ethan Trevaskis

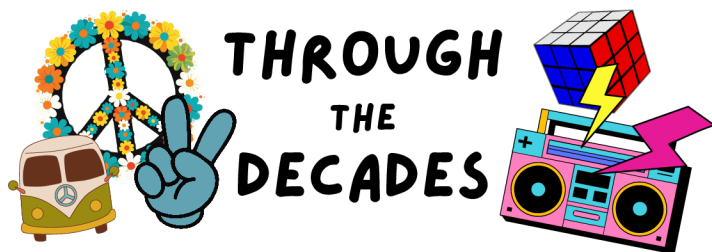
February 8 - Madisen Brown

February 15 - Sophia Kaschak

February 22 - Uri Daniels

March 1 - Jackson & Owen Ostrowski





Sunday School Food Drive

Now Through February 15th

Our "Through the Decades" Food Drive continues until February 15th for the Back Mountain Food Pantry. We would like to thank those who have already participated in the food drive and hope you will continue to help us to reach our goal of 300 nonperishable food items. We hope you are enjoying the skits each week from different decades with suggestions of items to donate!



As part of our food drive we will also do a collection for World Hunger the first weekend in February. You can find envelopes in the narthex.

- **100% of the Offering Goes to Hunger Projects**
- **80%** will go to hunger projects and agencies within the Susquehanna Conference
- **10%** will go to a national UMCOR hunger project
- **10%** will go to an international UMCOR hunger project

Through your generosity, numerous projects and agencies within the Susquehanna conference boundaries receive grants to continue their ministry to the hungry.



The children will be learning about Lent during February and March. We will discuss the importance of prayer during this time. We will discuss fasting in terms of giving something up for lent or giving up doing something to have more time to do things for others. We will discuss giving by encouraging donations to the community care cabinet throughout lent.

Mark Your Calendar

- Education Committee Meeting
Sunday, February 1st at
11:30am in the MS Sunday
School Room
- Easter Eggstravaganza Planning Meeting
Sunday, February 22nd at 11:30am in the MS
Sunday School Room



Donations of small wrapped candy and plastic Easter eggs can be dropped off in the Narthex in the bin labeled Easter candy/eggs. We are also in need of many volunteers to make this event possible. Please see the sign up sheet in the Narthex to volunteer for this fun and meaningful community event. If you have questions, please contact Brenda Kopalek.



YOUTH GROUP

**Mark
Your
Calendar**

**Youth Group Meeting
February 15th, 4PM-6PM
In The Social Hall**

Youth Group Coffee Corner

The Youth Group will be offering coffee on a regular basis after worship in the narthex. Stop by and enjoy some fellowship and a great cup of coffee!



We would like to reach out to our church members who are in college with a reminder that we are thinking of them and supporting them while they are away at college. If you would like us to send a gift package to a loved one in college, please call or e-mail the church office with their name and address.



**February 1st: Confirmation Meeting 4PM-6PM
in the Social Hall**

Mission and Outreach
reaching out to our community



**February 28, 2026 at Noon
SUMC Parking Lot**

The February meal is pulled pork, mac & cheese, vegetable, roll, and pink or white cake. Meals will be delivered to cars in the parking lot starting at noon on February 28th.



The collection for this Lent Season will be for the Community Care Cabinet and Nurses Cabinet at local school districts.

We are asking for the following items to be donated: Toilet Paper, Tissues, Dish Soap, Cleaning wipes, and Paper towels for the Care Cabinet. For the Nurses Cabinet we are asking for new travel size deodorant, kid friendly toothpaste and toothbrushes, bar soap, travel size shampoo and conditioner, and socks and underwear of all sizes for a boy or girl.



Music Notes

The Catholic Choral Society of Scranton

Presents

A Lenten Concert

Sunday March 1, 2026 at 3PM

Snow Date: Tuesday March 3, 2026 at 7PM

Shavertown United Methodist Church

163 N Pioneer Ave, Shavertown, PA 18708

A Free Will Offering
Will Be Taken

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



Singing Valentines



It's that time of year - for the next few weeks our choirs will be selling Singing Valentines! Choose a song from our song list & fill out a delivery form. Your valentine will be delivered via phone on February 14th and will be sung by the amazing singers in our choirs! There are song selections for the kids in your life, your friends, your family, and your sweetheart.

Delivery forms and song lists are available in the Narthex or from any member of our choirs. All forms and payments are due to Nancy Evans by February 14th. The cost is \$6 per valentine and Venmo is available! All proceeds help our music program here at SUMC! Thank you in advance for your support!



Starting February 5, 2026

Thursdays 6:30-8:30PM

In the Lounge

A GriefShare support group is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. Through this 13-week group, you'll discover what to expect in the days ahead and what's "normal" in grief. You'll learn helpful ways of coping with grief, in all its unpredictability and gain solid support each step of the way. Register at www.griefshare.org.



The Prayer Shawl yarners will meet on Tuesday, February 10, at 7:00pm in the lounge. Thanks to everyone who supported our sale in December. We have more dishcloths if anyone wants them. Contact Cathy Berkey for more information.

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

Happy Anniversary

Alice & Richard Newell 02/01/1975 51 years
MaryLou & William Grant 02/06/1982 44 years

Cathy Kosenak 02/12/1991 35 years

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

02/01 Wendy Novicki	02/05 Brenda Laity	02/13 Ally Rome	02/20 Alice Colatosi
02/01 John McCabe	02/05 Hudson Storm	02/13 Nancy Tkatch	02/20 Bryan Biesecker
02/01 Diane Kelly	02/07 Betsy Fitch	02/14 Caleb Waslick	02/20 Amanda Eschbach
02/01 Mary Zobel	02/07 Mackenzie Hogue	02/14 Valerie Huntzinger	02/20 John Dent
02/01 Dominic Angelicola	02/08 Andrew Chapple	02/14 Nancy Burkel	02/21 Patrick Kirk
02/02 Ruth Visintainer	02/08 Monica Esopi	02/15 Sophia Kaschak	02/22 Dan Morgan
02/02 Lauryn Lombardo	02/08 Theodore Rebennack	02/17 Patrick Frame	02/24 Jessica Bolton
02/02 Becky Gilbert	02/09 George Parrs	02/17 Jack Stout	02/24 Sloane Williams
02/02 AJ Nudo	02/10 Jackson Rimmey	02/17 Gary Young	02/25 Amelia Adams
02/03 William Camp	02/11 Wendy Trusa	02/18 Lindsay Keitzer	02/27 Christine Snedeker
02/03 Kaitlyn McCabe	02/12 Todd Hrivnak	02/18 Aleigha Ladamus	02/27 Brenda Kopalek
02/04 Gayle Yanora	02/12 Paige Navestad	02/18 Graham Sordoni	02/28 Kimberly Gruver
02/05 John Nicks	02/12 Beverly Shannon	02/18 Kyla Thomas	02/28 Bryant Mesick
02/05 Cathy Linker	02/13 Madge Rogers	02/19 Diana Olsen	02/28 Jared Hoats
02/05 Denise Biggs	02/13 Bill Meyers	02/19 Donna Church	

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
All Ages Bible Study Thursdays @ 7pm

Upcoming Team & Committee Meetings:

Education Committee Sunday, February 1st @ 11:30am
Church Council Tuesday, February 3rd @ 7:00pm
Mission & Outreach Wednesday, February 4th @ 6:30pm
Grief Share Starts Thursday, February 5th @ 6:30pm
Prayer Shawl Tuesday, February 10th @ 7:00pm
Finance Tuesday, February 17th @ 4:45pm
Worship Team Tuesday, February 17th @ 7:00pm

THE SHAVERTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
163 N. Pioneer Ave.
Shavertown PA 18708
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UPCOMING
EVENTS

- Wednesday, February 18th @ Noon**
Ash Wednesday Service at SUMC
- Wednesday, February 18th @ 7pm**
Ash Wednesday Service at Dallas UMC
- Sunday, February 22nd @ 11:30am**
Easter Eggstravaganza Planning Meeting
- Saturday, February 28th @ Noon**
Community Meal Giveaway
- Sunday, March 1st @ 3pm**
Catholic Choral Society Lenten Concert

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

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- Youth Grouppg 5**
- Mission & Outreachpg 5**
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- Church Familypg 7**