



THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
The Community Church Serving Northeast Philadelphia

10901 Calera Road ☐ Philadelphia, PA 19154
REV. NAVIN SATYAVRATA, PASTOR
PHONE: 215-632-1929

E-MAIL: secretary@umcgoodshepherd.org www.umcgoodshepherd.org



THE STAFF



NOVEMBER 2, 2025

Please join us at the **10:30 AM Traditional Worship Service on All Saints Sunday**, as we honor those members of Good Shepherd who have gone on to glory during the past 12 months. An opportunity will also be given to the congregation to name aloud their relatives and friends who have passed during 2025. We will keep them in our hearts forever, as we remember them in prayer. There will only be one Service.

NOVEMBER TEA



Please join us on **Saturday, November 22nd from 11:00 AM to 2:30 PM**, for tea, sandwiches, and snacks in Wood Hall. This social is open to members and non-members, as well as both men and women. Details are listed on **Page 6**.

HARVEST HOME SUNDAY November 23, 2025



Once again it is time to replenish our Food Bank with non-perishable items, so that we may help those less fortunate in our community. Please bring your donations to Good Shepherd on **Sunday, November 23rd**.

PLEASE: Do not give outdated or dented cans, or packages that have been opened or are torn. We thank you for your generosity.

Items needed in the Food Bank:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| Canned Meat (ham, chicken, corned beef) | Pancake mix (water-added) |
| Canned Beef Stew | Syrup |
| Chunky Soups | Pasta & Sauce |
| Vegetables | Peanut butter |
| Cereal | Side Dishes in pouches |
| Instant Oatmeal | Canned Pasta Meals |
| Stove Top | Powdered Coffee Creamer |
| Dehydrated or canned potatoes | Mac & Cheese |

Grocery gift cards of any denomination allow the recipient to purchase items such as fresh fruit, vegetables, and dairy products for their family.



There will be one service at **10:30 a.m. on Sunday, November 30th**, for *Hanging of the Greens*. Please join us as we prepare our hearts, for the start of the Advent season.

R*E*F*L*E*C*T*I*O*N*S

Galatians 6:10 (ESV): "So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith."

About a month ago I was contemplating a topic for an upcoming "Reflections" article, during a conversation with a close friend, and she suggested: "Be kind to your church family, just like you would your own family." I quickly jotted down her suggestion, since I felt that we can all benefit from this reminder. During my search on the topic, I came upon an article entitled *Caring For Church Family* (timburns.wordpress.com), and the opening paragraph reminded me of some of the life lessons taught in my youth: "He's family...She's family...For many people, not too many other words needed to be said when your parents told you why you were doing the things that you did. You were supposed to treat your brother or your sister a certain way, because they were family. You went to holiday dinners at Grandma's place because it was family. You had to let your aunt give you a huge kiss on the cheek, leaving her imprint on you. Why? Because she was family. Family takes care of family, not because they deserve any special treatment, but just because they are family."

Of course, by today's standards, that philosophy might be challenged; however, the basic principles of showing kindness and respect for one another still holds true, and it isn't any different in regard to your church family members. When we treat each other with kindness and respect, it can break down barriers, it can strengthen relationships, and also serves as a positive example for our children. It can lead to a more harmonious atmosphere, where members feel inspired and embraced, rather than being judged. By accepting the strengths, weaknesses and differences in others, we can encourage unity. Even when there are disagreements, we can remain united by treating each other with respect. In a church community, where kindness and respect are practiced, individuals can grow spiritually, as it provides an outlet for their gifts and the motivation they need. This collective mindset is also encouraging to visitors who are looking to join a church.

In an article entitled: *Acts of Kindness: A Christian Approach to Reflecting God's Love*, written by Ilupeju Ayokunnumi, the author states, "As Christians we have the opportunity to be ambassadors of Christ's love through every act of kindness, mirroring the ultimate example set by Jesus." He goes on to say, "Speak words of kindness and encouragement, uplifting others in their journey." It is my opinion that a heartfelt compliment can "contribute positively to someone's well-being." If we are welcoming to people, by simply acknowledging their presence, or by inquiring about their welfare, we promote positive interaction. Even a simple smile, or "hello, it's nice to see you again," can go a long way. Expressing gratitude to individuals who serve as volunteers in various capacities, reminds them that they are truly appreciated. Finally, the selfless act of praying for others shows that you care about their challenges, sorrows, or joys. We should keep in mind that although we may have differing opinions on various issues and current topics, we are basically brothers and sisters in Christ, which is an impressive commonality for all of us.

~ *Paula Direso, Editor*

On a final note, I am sharing the following poem (author unknown):

*In this house of faith, we're family, bound by grace,
A gentle word, a helping hand, in this sacred space.
A smile to warm a weary soul, a prayer for one in need,
Let kindness be the bridge we build, a loving, selfless deed.*

*May we remember, day by day, with every act and thought,
The love of Christ that fills our hearts, the lesson He has taught.
No one walks alone this path, so reach out and embrace,
The family of believers, in this blessed, holy place.*

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors
The people of the United Methodist Church

NOVEMBER, 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 9:00 - UMM Breakfast 12:00 - AA Meeting Wood Hall
2 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY 10:30 - Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 10:30 - Children's S.S., Youth Group, Confirmation Class 12.00 - Girl Scouts Troop #920 Wood Hall	3	4 6:30 - Trustees Meeting 7:30 - Al-Anon/Alateen	5 1:00 - Bible Study	6 7:00 - Chancel Choir Practice	7 6:30 - Finance Committee Meeting	8 12:00 - AA Meeting Wood Hall
9 9:00 - Praise Service with Holy Communion 10:30 - Traditional Worship 10:30 - Children's S.S., Youth Group, Confirmation Class 12.00 - Girl Scouts Troop #920 Wood Hall 6:30 - Girl Scouts Troop #9744 Wood Hall	10 7:00 - UW Faith Meeting	11 7:30 - Al-Anon/Alateen	12 1:00 - Bible Study 6:30 - SPRC Meeting	13 6:00 - SPRC meets with Rev. Brad Leight 6:30 - Charge Confer. 7:15 - Chancel Choir Practice	14	15 STAFF ARTICLES DUE! 12:00 - AA Meeting Wood Hall
16 9:00 - Praise Service 10:30 - Traditional Worship 10:30 - Children's S.S., Youth Group, Confirmation Class 11:45 - Leave for Grace Café 12.00 - Girl Scouts Troop #920 Wood Hall 6:30 - Girl Scouts Troop #9744 Wood Hall	17	18 12:00 - Ruth Circle 7:30 - Al-Anon/Alateen	19 1:00 - Bible Study	20 7:00 - Chancel Choir Practice	21	22 11.30 - 2:00 November Tea 12:00 - AA Meeting Wood Hall
23 9:00 - Praise Service with Holy Communion 10:30 - Traditional Worship 10:30 - Children's S.S., Youth Group, Confirmation Class 12.00 - Girl Scouts Troop #920 Wood Hall 6:30 - Girl Scouts Troop #9744 Wood Hall	24	25 6:30 - Lydia Circle 7:30 - Al-Anon/Alateen	26 1:00 - Bible Study	27 	28	29 10.00 - Decorating The Church 12:00 - AA Meeting Wood Hall
30 ONE SERVICE 10:30 - Hanging of the Greens 10:30 - Children's S.S., Youth Group, Confirmation Class 12.00 - Girl Scouts Troop #920 Wood Hall 6:30 - Girl Scouts Troop #9744						

DID YOU KNOW WE HAVE A



Please refer to our website (listed below) for updated cancellations and information, and share this notice with other members.

Are you the head of a committee or work group? Are you planning a church event? Would you like information about your committee, group, or event placed on the church website to be available to all members, neighbors, and the world? If so, please e-mail this information to our e-mail address which is as follows: webservant@umcgoodshepherd.org.

Our church website address is: www.umcgoodshepherd.org.



EDITOR'S CORNER

Thank you for your monthly contributions to *The Staff*. In order to enter and edit your articles for each month's edition, **PLEASE** submit your information by the **15th of each month by emailing your articles to: secretary@umcgoodshepherd.org**. You may also leave a phone message on: 215-632-1929.

If your articles are not received on time, they may not be included in *The Staff*.

If you have not received an emailed copy of *The Staff*, please notify the administrative secretary at the email address listed above.

MESSAGE TO CONGREGATION FROM OUR PASTOR

With the current AI (Artificial Intelligence), pictures are being photoshopped and posted on Social Media. Our Pastor, the Rev. Navin Satyavrata, has requested all in our Church to ignore the false pictures therein, and also requested not to comment to these posts without verifying the authenticity of the same. Further, all texts, phone calls, etc., that you might receive from unknown numbers (claiming to be Church members or members of the Congregation) asking for money, are to be ignored and deleted. Thank you.

SUNDAY SERVICES

9:00 AM Praise Worship Service
10:30 AM Traditional Worship Service

Holy Communion will be served at the 9:00 AM Praise Service on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.

Holy Communion will be served at the 10:30 AM Traditional Worship Service on the 1st Sunday of the month.



On Sunday, November 2nd, there will be one Service at 10:30 AM for All Saints Sunday.



On Sunday, November 30th, there will be one Service at 10:30 AM for Hanging of the Greens.

The 10:30 AM Sunday service will be offered online via Zoom, by logging onto the Facebook page via the church website, or via Facebook: @goodshepherdumcphila.

We pray that you will come out and experience a warm welcome and a sweet spirit of fellowship.



Good Shepherd Children's Sunday School
10:30 AM

If you would like to volunteer to serve as a Teacher or an Aide, please contact: Walt Dziuk at: 215-637-7898.

Daylight Saving Time Ends at 2:00 AM, Sunday, November 2nd



Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour, on **Saturday night, November 1st**, before going to bed.

PRAYER CHAIN



To put a **JOY OR CONCERN** on the prayer chain, or if you would like to become one of the prayer team members, please email Joyce Cartwright at: dotgojoy1590@aol.com. For those who are not computer savvy, Betty McLaughlin handles the telephone requests and notifications, so feel free to leave a message at 215-947-3317.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY



Our Bible Study meets at **1:00 PM** in the choir room. We hope you will consider joining us, as we learn about God's word. "If you continue in My word, you are truly My disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." (John 8:31-32).

CHANCEL CHOIR



Chancel Choir Practice **meets on Thursdays at 7:00 PM**. We always welcome new voices, so please consider joining!

READING AND RELIGION

Contributed by: Phyllis Brock
The Heart of Winter
By Jonathan Evisom



Abe Winter and Ruth Warneke were never meant to be together. Their disastrous blind date in college turned into a seventy-year marriage and they have realized that opposites do attract.

Abe and Ruth lived on a farm on Bainbridge Island, and through the years they have fallen in and out of step. From their losses and guarded secrets, a dependable partnership has been forged.

However, when Ruth's loose tooth turns out to be something much more malicious, the life they've created together comes to a crisis. As Ruth struggles with her independence, Abe must learn how to take care of her while their three children question his ability to look after his wife. And once again, the couple has to reconfigure how to be there for each other.

This is a snapshot of a seventy-year marriage. You watch big moments in subtle ways, and discover how the oddly paired college kids became parents, fell apart and back together, and grew into the Abe and Ruth of today. This is a heartwarming story and it is a reminder that true love lives in small, everyday moments.

FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS

Many thanks to all who purchased the Friends Helping Friends Boscov's coupons, for their sale held on Wednesday, October 22nd. We appreciated your support! Thank you, Brian Calhoun, for spearheading this fundraiser.

TRUNK OR TREAT!!!



Our Trunk or Treat, held on Sunday, October 26th, was *Spooktacular!* We are pleased to report that the Girl Scouts joined us, and we had an enthusiastic turnout. There were cleverly decorated trunks, and music was supplied by our talented D.J., Tom Parker. Hot dogs, hot chocolate and drinks were sold. Trophies were given out for best costume and best trunk decorations.

UNITED METHODIST MEN'S BREAKFAST



Our next Men's Breakfast will be held on **Saturday, November 1st, at 9:00 AM**. Mark your calendar and please come and enjoy a delicious meal, prepared by our gracious hostess, Pat Sommers, as we join together for fellowship.

THE TRUSTEES will be meeting again on **Tuesday, November 4th, at 6:30 PM**.

A FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING will be held on **Friday, November 7th, at 6:30 PM**.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH



All women are invited to attend the next meeting on **Monday, November 10th, at 7:00 PM**.

SPRC MEETING

The next SPRC meeting will take place on **Wednesday, November 12th, at 6:30 PM**.

CHARGE CONFERENCE

Our Charge Conference will take place at Good Shepherd on **Thursday, November 13th**. The **SPRC will meet with the Rev. Brad Leight at 6:00 PM, followed by the Charge Conference at 6:30 PM to 7:15 PM.**

MISSIONS

HOLIDAY GREETING CARD COLLECTION FOR MEN AND WOMEN IN THE MILITARY



Once again, we are honoring our military personnel, and letting them know they are in our thoughts and prayers. The instructions for the cards are as follows:

- 1) No Glitter
- 2) Sign your name
- 3) Feel free to write a message
- 4) Do not insert card in envelope

Please place cards in the wicker basket in the Narthex starting 11/2 through 11/16 (last day). Let's see if we can fill it to the top! We have never done this! A volunteer will be needed to deliver the cards to the Armory on Southampton Road.

I would like to thank everyone for the school supplies that they donated for the Back-Lot children at Parks Casino. We were able to collect and fill 22 backpacks! Future projects to be announced, will include collecting food for the Holmesburg Food Pantry. – Betty McLaughlin, Chair, & Missions Team

RUTH CIRCLE



We will be meeting on **Tuesday, November 18th, at 12:00 PM.** For any questions, contact Mary Beth Ciesielski at: 215-341-7828. We meet on the third Tuesday of the month from September through May. Please bring your lunch and a reading with you. We hope you will consider joining us!



NOVEMBER TEA November 22nd 11:00 AM to 2:30 PM

It's Tea time again!!!! This social is open to both members and non-members, as well as

both men and women. Here is what we need: **Hostesses** –your job is to decorate your table and invite as many people to your table as you can. Guests are asked to bring a tea cup or mug (if not supplied by your hostess). Everyone is asked to bring food items for all to share, such as: Pasta salad, deviled eggs, tea sandwiches, snack items and dips, or your favorite desserts. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the Narthex. A free-will offering will be taken.

Set up will be on **Friday, November 21st, at 6:00 PM.** For any questions, please contact: Rosemarie Gross at: 215-868-5304. Please consider joining us!

LYDIA CIRCLE, our circle for today's working



women, will meet again on **Tuesday, November 25th at 6:30 PM.** We usually meet every 4th Tuesday of the month. If you'd like to join this circle, or have any questions, please contact Jeannette Cartwright at: 215-676-3856 or 215-539-7716.

DECORATING THE CHURCH



We will be decorating the church for Advent and Christmas on **Saturday, November 29th, at 10:00 AM.** All volunteers are welcome and appreciated. Coffee and munchkins will be provided.

WORSHIP MEETING: The next meeting will take place on **Thursday, January 8th, at 6:00 PM.**

The Worship Committee has requested the following: Kindly send all **Announcements** to Danielle Parker by 5.00 p.m. the previous day (Saturday) to her email: hidefalls@verizon.net or text her at: 215-480-3398.

Also please send all **Joys and Concerns** to either Jeannette Cartwright or Joyce Cartwright by 5.00 p.m. on Saturday. Jeannette Cartwright's email: bonanzafive@verizon.net and her cell number is: 215-539-7716. Joyce Cartwright's email: dotgojoy1590@aol.com, and her (home) telephone number is: 215-676-3856.

Happy Birthday

NOVEMBER

- 3 - Emily Morrison 5 - Rebecca Ebot
- 9 - Rev. Navin Satyavrata
- 21 - Ronald Case, Jr. 25 - Kathy Bellerjeau
- 25 - Mary Ellen Rehm 29 - Marie Quigley



NOVEMBER

- 11th - Gary & Linda Calhoun
- 16th - Anisha & Gary Calhoun



If you would like to include your name on the **STAFF BIRTHDAY or ANNIVERSARY LIST**, please include your name and the day and month you were born, or your names and anniversary date and send an email to: secretary@umcgoodshepherd.org.

C*O*L*L*E*C*T*I*O*N*S

Do you know we collect the following items?
 1. Eyeglasses – Delivered to the Lion’s Club.
 2. Non-perishable food for our food bank.
 There are collection baskets for these items in the Narthex.

We are currently collecting the following Christian books: Upper Room, Daily Bread, and Response Magazine, and other Christian periodicals. Please put them in the wicker baskets in the Narthex.



We are recycling aluminum cans. (soda or cat food cans, or any aluminum cans. If a magnet sticks to a can, then it’s not aluminum. Please note: canned vegetables and soups are not aluminum). There are blue buckets that say: “cans only” next to our trash cans. You can drop your cans off in the buckets, or Rosemarie Gross can stop by your home and pick them up from you. She will take them to the recycle center and cash them in, and the money will go to Good Shepherd. **Also, if you put aluminum pans in the recycle can, please make sure there is no food waste in them. Kindly empty the liquid out of the cans.** For any questions, please contact: Rosemarie at: 215-868-5304.

2025 Church Programs

Sunday Worship Services
 09.00 a.m. and 10.30 a.m.

Sunday School for Children, Youth Group, Confirmation Class
 10.30 a.m.

United Women in Faith Second Mondays
 07.00 p.m.

Ruth Circle
 Third Tuesdays 12.00 p.m.

Bible Study
 Wednesdays 01.00 p.m.

Lydia Circle
 Fourth Tuesdays 06.30 p.m.

United Methodist Men’s Breakfast
 First Saturdays 09.00 a.m.

Ash Wednesday Service
 Wednesday, March 5, 07.00 p.m.

Lenten Dinners and Bible Study
 Wednesdays in Lent 06.30 p.m.

Maundy Thursday Service
 Thursday, April 17, 07.00 p.m.

Good Friday Service
 Friday, April 18, 07.00 p.m.

Easter Sunday Service
 Sunday, April 20, 10.30 a.m.

Advent Dinners and Program
 Wednesdays in Advent 06.30 p.m.

Candlelight Christmas Eve Service
 Wednesday, December 24, 07.00 p.m.

IN THE SERVICE OF OUR COUNTRY:



Thank you for all you do to keep us safe!

- Daniel Bader, VI*
- Nolan Bader*
- Evan Kuehl*
- Reilly Kueh*
- Michael McLaughlin*
- Ryan Sutch*