# Mission Statement for St. Paul's: To proclaim God's love by word and example and to seek Christ in one another.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 276 Church Street, Montrose, PA 18801 Office 570-278-2954, Mon. to Thu. 8:15am to 1:00pm

stpaulsmontrose@epix.net http://stpaulschurchmontrose.org https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsmontrose

# Oct. 20 - 26, 2019 Upcoming Events

(Events are at St. Paul's unless specified otherwise)

- Sun. Oct 20 Holy Eucharist at 10:00am with Fr. John Wagner
- Sun. Oct 27 Pledge Sunday

# **Readings for Sunday**

First Reading: Genesis 32:22-31

Psalm: 121

Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

#### This Week's Lay Ministers:

Altar Guild: Sandy Seeger & Marsha Jones

Announcements: Lynne Graham

Camera & Broadcast: Al Leigh & Andrew

Wurth

Acolyte: Benjamin Zalewski or Sean Eckert

Counters: Maggie Sock & Richard Marker

Chalice Bearer: Jerry Sock Lector: Karen Blye-McAbee Intercessor: Carol Marker

Greeter/Usher: Maggie Sock & Nancy Dooling

Hospitality:

Altar Flowers this week are In Memory of Loved Ones.

For those who are ill or have requested our prayers: Margaret Burgh, Kathy Warriner, Joe Welden, Alice Wood, Naomi Bennett & Fr. John Wagner.

"If you know anyone who wishes to receive the Weekly Update, please let Betty know."



#### **Endless Mountains Theatre**

"Tales for a Dark and Stormy Night," is a reading of seasonal stories with a spooky style. The show at St. Paul's will be Thursday Oct. 24 at 7 pm. Cost will be a free-will donation, and simple refreshments will be offered.

#### **AUTUMN TRIP - COME ALONG**

A trip to tour the Historic Episcopal Church of St. Mark's & St. John's in the town of Jim Thorpe is scheduled for OCTOBER 27th, 2019. We will leave St. Paul's after service on Sunday having refreshments before leaving. The distance is an hour and a half drive to and from and we will travel via car pool hoping to behold the autumn colors as we travel south.

Please let Lynne Graham or Carol Marker know if you are interested to be included. There is a sign-up sheet at entrance of the church and also in the parish hall. This trip is for EVERYONE, so come along!

5.00 gift children free Lynne 570-396-7612 Carol 570-465-7230

#### SLEEPING BAG MINISTRY

A recent inventory of our supplies shows that we are still in need of clean blankets and also the SMALL SAMPLE SIZE OF TOOTHPASTE. Thank you for all your past contributions and help. Come join us soon.

Second Wednesday and second Saturday of the month!

### Vestry Highlights, October 10, 2019

- We read Matthew 9:18-26 and discussed whether we recognize miracles in our time.
- We accepted the Property Report and approved the expenditure for new wiring and lighting in the Parish Hall.
- Stephanie gave us a report on Diocesan Convention and the two resolutions that were passed—updated clergy salary schedule and the Diocesan budget. Further information can be found on the Diocesan web site.
- We discussed increasing the stipend for supply clergy, but decided to wait for direction from the Diocese expected at next year's convention. We voted to give Fr. John a bonus instead of an increased stipend for the amount of time he will remain as our supply priest.
- The Vestry was updated on our search for a Priest-in-Charge. We are waiting for the Diocese to make a decision on housing before we can finish calculating a compensation package. We have kept our candidate informed as we proceed.
- Vestry and all who access the building by keypad are required to take the updated Safeguarding God's Children clearances. Clearances are good for 3 years. Information about completing the requirements was given to each Vestry member.
- We approved two requests from the discretionary fund.
- We reviewed and accepted the Treasurer's Report.

Looking ahead:

Next meeting: Thursday, November 14, 2019







#### Feed a Friend

Trehab will be collecting desserts for the Thanksgiving Baskets. This is the 35<sup>th</sup> year. Last year 742 households were served in Susquehanna County. They are asking for Canned Pie Filling, Box Pie Crust, Box Cake Mixes and Prepared Canned Icing. All items must be brought in by Sunday November 10<sup>th</sup>.

# Floating Hospital

The annual gathering of items for the Floating Hospital will be at the Montrose United Methodist Church, 526 Church Street, Montrose, on Monday, November 11, 2019, beginning at 11:30 a.m., hosted by Sean Granahan and workers from the Floating Hospital in New York City. Lunch will be served and you are asked to call 570.278.2791 to make a reservation.



#### **Mobile Food Pantry**

St. Paul's supplies the bread and many of our parishioners volunteer. The next distribution is on November 8. Volunteers are always welcome.

#### **New Feature**

We thought we would try an experiment for the Weekly Updates. If anyone wants to submit a short story, a picture of some St. Paul activity, a memorial to someone or something of general interest, please send it to me for inclusion in an upcoming Update. To start it off, I am including something I did for our kids about their Grandpa. I hope it sparks some of your own memories of times past. Dan





#### **Interfaith Christmas Dinner**

We will be collecting 50 boxes of Stuffing Mix for the Christmas Dinner. We need all donations by **December 15**<sup>th</sup>.





# **Christmas Toy Tags**

Starting mid-November toy tags will be available. We will be doing 20 tags. Gifts should be valued between \$25 and \$30. Gifts are to be unwrapped with the tag securely attached. If batteries are required, please include them with the gift. All Gifts must be brought to the Church by **December 8**<sup>th</sup>.

**St. Paul's Cycle of Prayer:** Carol Arnold; James & Elizabeth Bailey; Margaret Baker; Benson, Rachel, Maximus & Lucas Bartron

**Send Communications:** minutes, special events etc. to the office, for the parish office to disperse.

**Pastoral Emergency:** call the parish office during office hours. After hours, you may call Lynne Graham at her home 570-934-1160.

Our collections for the Trehab Food Bank & Women's Resource Center are the First Sunday of every month. Blessings and thanks for your support and participation.

**Church Closures** please turn your radio dial to WPEL 96.5 FM. We will announce any closure of our church service on that station.

# **Centering Prayer Starts New Phase**

Centering prayer has begun a new phase in May. We will "do" Centering Prayer at our own homes at noon on Wednesdays. On the last Wednesday of the month we will gather in the sanctuary at St. Paul's Church in Montrose. If you haven't tried meditation lately, this would be a splendid opportunity.

Our thanksgivings: We give thanks for Rachel Bartron & Robert Smith who celebrate their birthdays this week. O God, look with favor, we pray, as Rachel & Robert begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life. Amen. We give thanks for those celebrating wedding anniversaries this week. Grant o God, in your compassion, that those celebrating wedding anniversaries this week may live out the covenant they have made. May they grow in forgiveness, loyalty and love, and come at last to the eternal joys which you have promised through Jesus Christ our Lord; and may the blessing of God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be with them this day and forever. Amen.

St. Paul's Altar Flowers: If you wish to reserve, a Sunday please sign-up on the sheet at the back of the church. Then fill out an Altar Flower Card. Please use one card for each request, enclose your check for \$36.00 with the card in the envelope provided, and place it in the offering plate or send it to the parish office prior to the week that you are doing flowers. For those wishing to supply your own flowers please sign up on the sheet at the back of the church and fill out an altar flower card indicating you will do your own flowers. Thank you!

7 Photos this week.

# **ALS Walk**

On Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, two carloads of St. Paul's parishioners made the early morning trip to Allentown for the walk (3 mile) to defeat ALS. Fr. John cut the ribbon to start the event and led his team, "John's Soulful Walkers", comprised of members of St. Paul's and St. Mark's and St. John's churches, to the finish line. It was a beautiful day. Our fund raising goal was exceeded – thanks to those parishioners who contributed!







#### It's October

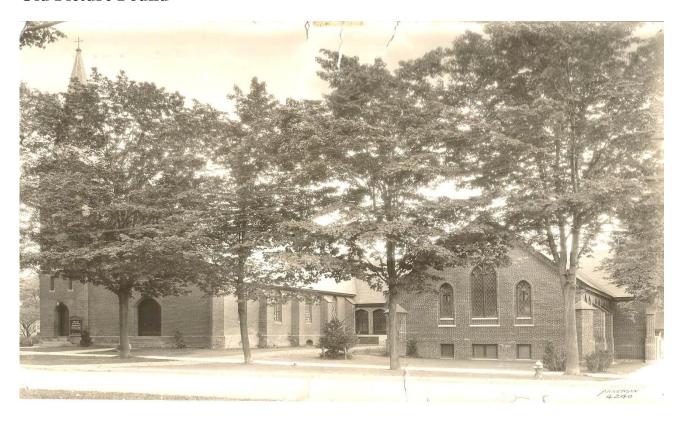
It's October and it was fun to watch Ben LaRue's big pumpkin patch out on 706 west turn slowly orange. Who hasn't carved a pumpkin and put a candle in it? St. Paul's has two guarding the ramp entrance. They will be there at least until Halloween. Any carvers in the pews?



Being a Christian is like being a pumpkin. God picks you from the patch, brings you in, and washes off all the dirt. Then He cuts the top and scoops out all the yucky stuff. He removes the seeds of doubt, hate, and greed.

Last, He carves you a new smiling face and puts His light inside of you to shine for all the world to see!

## **Old Picture Found**



In October of 1933, St. Paul's celebrated with much fanfare, its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. This was a huge affair and the two-day ceremonies were started off with a dinner for 200 at the recently built Montrose Inn across the street. (Now the bank.) A photographer from Scranton was hired to take a photograph of the church and parish hall to mark the event. It is the earliest one known of the parish hall, which was built in 1926/27. The photograph was recently found and is shown above. Bishop Frank Sterrett was the principal speaker and during the festivities, Samuel D. Warriner presented a painting of his father, Rev. Edward A. Warriner, to be hung above the fireplace in the Parish Hall. The painting currently hangs in the Guild Room (2019). About this time, the fountain with the cherub in front of the parish house was given in memory of Mrs. Ruel C. Warriner by the Garden Club of Montrose. What changes can you see from then to now?

Read more about the history of St. Paul's church in the upcoming book, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Montrose, Pennsylvania 1831-2019.

# On Fathers, Black Walnuts and Fall



It's funny how certain things give you flash backs, how something jogs some old memory. Sometimes it's an old song; sometimes it's a word in a conversation or someone's mannerism. I was cutting the back grass this weekend when a walnut from the big black walnut tree fell and actually hit me. It was one of the immature ones – the ones that never form into mature nuts but fall off early. Those early walnuts falling were one of the first harbingers of fall in my youth because it meant it was time for Dad and me to do our annual walnut collecting. That black walnut brought a smile and flush of memories – good ones of past falls, and recollections of my father when he was not old yet. I thought about him and those yearly fall trips as I continued cutting the grass.

I'm not sure when it started. Certainly in elementary school. My brother never went; it was just Dad and me. Special time. Dad decided to collect, dry and eat walnuts and it was my job to help him. The early walnuts dropping were "signs" that it would soon be time. There were four big trees he (we) knew about, each having the "big ones" and lots of them. He would pick a Saturday in late September or early October and off we would go with our old bushel baskets and paper bags. If we got there late, the animals got a lot of them; if we got there early, I got to throw rocks at them. The leaves of a black walnut are generally the last to appear in the spring and the first to fall off in the fall, often before the nuts fell. So many times the nuts were just hanging on a naked tree, easy to see, fun to hit. But Dad knew his picking dates. I often thought as an adult that he must have driven over and peeked because for most years all we had to do is pick them up off the ground. Sometimes rainy, sometimes cool, but always with fall in the air.

While driving the 57 Chevy or later the 1964 Chevy to get them, he would tell the same stories about picking them when they lived on the farm in the 1920s. It was his job from age six on. One year he left them outside instead of putting them in the cellar where he was supposed to and the squirrels got a lot of them; or when the big kids next door stole them and grandpa had to go speak to their fathers, etc. Also, long theories on how they had to be properly dried so they would not rot, or...We would bring our collection home like trophies, our "harvest was successful" type thing almost the same way the neighbors brought home their fish or a deer. Some years three bushels, some years only one. We would spread them out on the back brick walk – which we had to do before Mom got home from work. She was never as excited about this project as he was! He would turn them over every couple days and the neighbors would come over to inspect – always getting a lecture on the correct way to dry them. Eventually, the husks rotted and fell off -- kinda. The best part was knocking the remaining husks off the shells. Your hands were stained for weeks. Mom was never excited about that part either! They were then put in our cellar on newspaper for drying and eventually eating. I never really liked them and they were hard to get the nuts out. We would always get his running critiques on how they were that year—"a little bitter," "ok but not as good as last year," "those ones from the big tree near Thornburg Bridge weren't so good; maybe we won't pick from it next year." But we always did. I realize now that they would eventually throw about one-half of our harvest out. I guess the fun was in the collecting or at least Mom getting her cellar back to normal as that was where the washing machine was.

When I went to college he went on without me for a few years I guess and when I got back from the Army he had quit -- "Mom never liked them anyway" and by then they were going to Florida for a couple of months in the fall and early winter so he missed the season. I guess I wonder if my kids will have similar memories about things we did. Maybe when their proverbial walnut hits them they will get similar flashbacks and a smile about me after I'm long gone. I would like that I think. I think Dad would too. Maybe that's why we did it – why he did it. Fall came to our house when I was growing up when Dad would announce at breakfast, "It's walnut time."