



**ST. PAUL'S**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

276 Church Street, Montrose, PA 18801  
Office 570-278-2954, Mon. to Thu. 8:15am to 1:00pm  
Click on link to email St. Paul's: [stpaulsmontrose@epix.net](mailto:stpaulsmontrose@epix.net)  
Click on link to go to our Website: <http://stpaulschurchmontrose.org>  
Click on link to go to our Facebook Page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsmontrose>

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

## Aug 2 - 8, 2020

**Morning Prayer in the Memorial Garden  
Sunday, Aug 2 at 10:00 am or inside if bad  
weather.**

### **This Week's Lay Ministers:**

Altar Guild: Barbara Undercoffler & Karen Blye-McAbee

Announcements: Lynne Graham

Officiant:

Counters: Karen Blye-McAbee & Sandy Seeger

Greeter/Usher: Martha Kupscznk & Kristina Kinney

### **In a Time of Grief**

As most of us know, Evie and Skip Constantine join us on many Sundays for worship during the summer. Evie's sister, Peg, frequently accompanied her. Unbeknownst to me when I asked Evie to write a message for the update, Peg passed away on July 10. Evie has been overwhelmed with sadness, but sent a few thoughts to share.

"St. Paul's is my home away from home. Everyone at St. Paul's is very friendly and caring. We both enjoyed helping out with your pancake supper. My sister, Peg, loved our lake house and always enjoyed services at St. Paul's. We also enjoyed St. Matthew's services."

During this time of pandemic, we all feel a sense of loss—loss of control, loss of "normalcy", loss of human touch. Death of a loved one at this time just compounds the

profound grief we carry in our hearts for the loss of what we took for granted.

Who ever thought it would be "normal" to walk into the grocery store and see everyone wearing masks? We adjust to these safety measures out of love, caring, and compassion for our fellow humans. Masks still feel strange and sometimes I have to walk back to the car to get my mask because it isn't natural to automatically grab it and put it on.

But in reality, much has stayed the same. As Evie points out, we gather in joy on Sunday mornings to worship a God who loves us no matter our current condition. Our faith family is together in mind and spirit. Above our masks, everyone's smiling eyes welcome those who are sad or happy, having a great day, or having a lousy day. We greet one another in the name of a God who came not to dispel the darkness, but to be a light that shines in it. We also share that light. One candle can light a thousand candles and not be diminished.

We share Evie's grief at the loss of Peg. May she be comforted by our love and support, and may she know God's peace.

Lynne

**Birthdays for August:** James Bailey 8/2, Scott Price 8/13, Barbara Undercoffler 8/19, Else Brunner 8/20, Robert Aiken 8/23, Thomas Syle 8/25, Margaret Burgh 8/28, James Earley 8/29 and Patty Aiken 8/30.

**Our thanksgivings:** We give thanks for those who celebrate their birthdays this week. *O God, look with favor, we pray, as they 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.*

**For those who are ill or have requested our prayers:** Margaret Burgh, Kathy Warriner, Naomi Bennett, Justin, Rita Leigh, Fr. John Wagner, Eric, Fr. Arthur & Mo. Jenny.

**Your tithes and pledges** can be mailed to the church office at 276 Church St., Montrose, PA 18801. Or you can slip your pledge under the office door if you happen to be going by the church.

**Pastoral Emergency or Non-Emergency Contact:** you can call the parish office during office hours. After hours call Lynne Graham 570-934-1160.

**3 Photos this week.**

### **Eighth Sunday After Pentecost**

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish. When it was full, the fishermen pulled it up on the shore. Then they sat down and collected the good fish in baskets, but threw the bad away. This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

*Matthew 13:31-33, 48-50*

### **Fr. Bill's Morning Prayer**

In praise and prayer, thanks and petition we kneel in this early morning Lord. Our faith is in you, because of you all our hopes and horizons exist and have their being. Be with us this day, take away our fear, strengthen us to endure all that we undergo. We dedicate this day to you, whole and complete, whatever the outcome our faith rests in you.

We thank you, and pray that our faith may grow stronger, fortified by the lives of all who have gone before. Peter, who followed and led your disciples, denied you but rose again to build up your church. Paul the great missionary, theologian and thinker, who gave us his letters to

reflect down the years. John who taught love and with that gentle spirit, gave us a Gospel that captured your word.

From the Desert Fathers of old who built holy places, such as Benedict and Dominic, Francis and Clare. Did they too have doubts as their lives took some turn, when misfortune fell and the grey skies abound? We forget we are human at times of oppression, our memory dims and our faith it grows weak. It is then that we need that unifying Spirit, that carries us over our Red Sea of doubt.

Yet when we are strong and our faith is uplifted, we sing of our praise with gusto aloud. Handel and Bach and the great hymns of Wesley resound from our Organs and rattle our walls. "Faith of Our fathers..." and "How Great Thou Art..." words from great poets and lovers of music. Their gift to us, blesses our prayer, Lord. Sometimes when we have no words to say. For when we can sing, we release a Spirit that echoes through the Universe praising all that you are.

Faith amidst doubt, faith when afraid, faith in troubled times and faith in our weakness. We pray that our faith in you will light our way, never go out. Will endure till the end. Give us more faith Lord, a faith that is strong, brave and bathed in your love. With faith we can do much; with faith we can move mountains. For our faith ties us to happiness, hope and peace of mind.

As we begin our day, our faith rests with you, begins with you, Lord, ends with you. Our faith is in Jesus, Savior, Redeemer, Messiah, the meaning in our life. Amen.

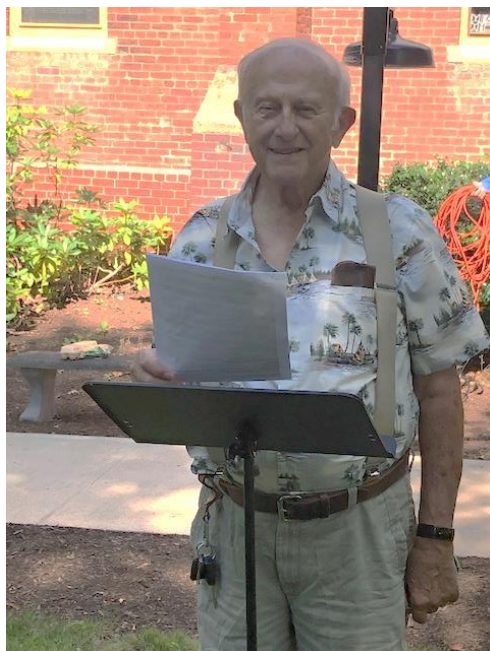
*Fr. William McGinty (Fr. Bill) of Christ Church, Forest City, writes a daily Prayer that he sends out in Email. If you would like to be on Fr. Bill's list just let Dan know.*

### **Remember When -- June 2015**



## Sunday Morning Prayer

On Sunday, July 26<sup>th</sup>, Tom Undercoffler led us in Morning Prayer. After the Gospel, he even gave us a couple of things to think about heaven during the week. Thanks Tom!



It's starting to get harder to get everybody in the picture as we are more aware of properly distancing. Several folks didn't make it in the picture as I couldn't back up far enough. The weather again was perfect and our new amplifier competed admirably with the truck traffic on Church Street.

