



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

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.

July 12 – July 18, 2020

**Morning Prayer in the Memorial Garden
Sunday, July 12 at 10:00 a.m or inside if bad
weather.**

When Lynne Graham asked me, a couple of weeks ago, if I'd write something for the Weekly Update, I weakly said I'd think about it - all the while thinking I could never come up with something as meaningful as the beautiful meditations Lynne, Tom, Vicki and Carol have written. But then I thought, maybe you all would find it interesting, if not meaningful for your lives, if I recounted my road to St. Paul's - and to Episcopalianism - as your organist.

Actually, my roots here go back well over 50 years, back when Marleah Miller and I were best friends, and I would attend the midnight Christmas Eve service with her and her family. I might even have sung with the choir; I'm not sure. My own church, the Montrose Methodist church, didn't have a late service, but I loved the mystery (and the music) of your service, and going out into the night of early Christmas morning. I could almost imagine I heard angels singing to announce Christ's birth.

As an adult living in Norwich, NY, I joined and loved the United Church of Christ (formerly the Congregational Church), where I led the senior, junior, and bell choirs for eighteen years. In all that time, I never had any urge to learn the organ; I just wanted to sing and direct choirs. Then I left Norwich and the UCC to move to Albany for a couple of years to get certification to teach English as a Second Language. When I came back, my director's

position had been filled, and I had no church job.

One Wednesday in September 2006, I got an urgent phone call from the Episcopal priest, asking if I might possibly be available to play the piano for the following Sunday's service. Well, the one Sunday turned into a twice-a-month job, and I decided to try playing the organ, at least for the hymns. It was fun! I soon began trying out very simple music for Preludes and Postludes, got a few coaching lessons from the UCC organist, and the road to becoming an organist opened up.

When I moved back to Montrose after retiring, what did I encounter but St. Paul's, looking for an organist! Maggie and Jerry Sock were my guiding angels (we had met at the EMHS physical therapy center) who told me about the job and urged me to contact the priest, Fr. Paul. I did, and the rest is history.

For me, the meaning of the service and the experience of spirituality come through the music and most of all when I am a participant in the music. My job at St. Paul's has also been the entrance into such a loving, generous, active group of friends! I have felt, not only welcomed, but included, into the life of St. Paul's from the very first Sunday.

My hope is that my music has touched your hearts at least some of the time, and that it has been part of your spiritual journeys. It certainly has been part of mine, and I thank you for the privilege of serving you.

As J.S. Bach used to sign all his compositions:
Soli Dei Gloria – To the Glory of God,
Cathy Hammons

This Week's Lay Ministers:

Altar Guild: Carol Lasher & Nancy Dooling
Announcements: Lynne Graham
Counters: Tom Undercoffler & David Calby
Lector: Lynne Graham
Intercessor:
Greeter/Usher: Martha Kupscznk & Vickie Calby

Birthdays for July: Janet Kuhn July 9, Maggie Sock July 15, Maximus Bartron July 20, Stephanie Calby July 25 & Arthur Jones July 29.

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.

8 Photos this week.

5th Sunday After Pentecost

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus.* 'Teacher,' he said, 'what must I do to inherit eternal life?' He said to him, 'What is written in the law? What do you read there?' He answered, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.' And he said to him, 'You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.'

**A mighty fortress is our God, A bulwark never failing:
Our helper He, amid the flood Of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe Doth seek to work his woe;
His craft and power are great, And armed with cruel hate,
On earth is not his equal.**

Morning Prayer

The day begins with you O Lord, as we arise from our rest and kneel to acknowledge your place in our lives and the call that you give us in this brand new day. The clouds of doubt that once belonged to Thomas, rest now upon our shoulders and at times we see only as 'in a mirror darkly'.

Strengthen our faith and our belief in these dark days of trial and in this 'time of plague'. Your church cries out to you for the grace of the Spirit that brings perseverance, fortitude, that breaks the will of evil men and outlives the scourge of illness and disease. Lift us up Lord as you raised up Thomas, and cast away our doubt and lack of faith.

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

Morning Prayer in the Memorial Garden



For the first time since March 8, 2020, we met as a faith community in the Memorial Garden. It was a beautiful day and a beautiful space to celebrate our joining together for worship. If you missed it, we hope to see you this Sunday. Bring a chair.

We Missed You





