



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 5 – July 11, 2020



**Morning Prayer in the Memorial Garden
Sunday, July 5 at 10:00 a.m**

Grand Re-opening!!

This is a very special re-opening in that we, as the church, never really closed. Unlike stores, we will have no discounts or sales, no BOGO, and no "freebies" as incentive to get you in the door. But we do offer free give-aways--smiles under our masks, laughter, love and fellowship along with our reading of Morning Prayer together. Notice the *together* part.

It has been months since we have gathered as a faith family. We have been blessed with the technology to stay together by means of email, texts, and phone calls. We've waved at each other in the weekly update. We may bump into one another at the grocery store (hard to actually bump when six feet apart), or honk as we pass on the street. We've sent cards to one another in the mail, but none of that feels the same as gathering physically in the same place for worship.

We have all looked forward to meeting once again in person. So now the next step is to be sure we meet safely. We are asking each person to wear his/her mask properly with mouth and nose covered. Please bring your own chair and enter the garden from the

parking lot. Ushers will have a clipboard to record each person's attendance in case of future contact tracing, God forbid! Please place your chair six feet from any other chairs unless you are family members in which case you may sit together. Betty has prepared one time use bulletins so there is no need for Books of Common Prayer and we will not be singing, so no need for hymnals. The offering plates and bread baskets will be placed at the exit to the sidewalk. One final order of business, although it pains me to say it, NO HUGGING. There will be a time and place when we can celebrate the end of Covid 19 with hugs, but for now, just celebrate being together again.

Again, thank you to John Warriner, Sandy Seeger, Tom Undercoffler, Esther Welden, and Carol Marker for putting our re-gathering plan together. Please call me if you have any questions or concerns. See you in the Garden on Sunday! Happy July 4th to everyone.

Lynne
570-934-1160

Have you ever had the feeling that God had something to do SPECIFICALLY in the event that was happening to you. ... sort of a personal interference with the flow of YOUR circumstances? Rita and I had one of those moments on our way to Montrose, We had decided to move from New Jersey to Pennsylvania. It was 2001 and I had taken an early retirement from AT&T in 1994. (As a temp worker in NJ you cannot live by working 50% of the time.) So I gave God an ultimatum.

It was early May. I thought, "Get me a full time job by May 31 or we are out of here!"

Nothing happened. June 1 came and I had my "sign from God." The house sold in a week. Good sign.

We started looking in the Poconos ... had 3 realtors looking for us. It was the fog that turned me off. The Poconos has lots of fog. I picked up the Newark Star Ledger and checked the "out-of-state" part of the real estate section. Rita thought I had two heads. "Something" told me to check. That day there was only one listing for Pennsylvania, it started "On golden pond ..."

So it was deceptive advertising. We were hooked. And here we are ... thanks to "the left hand of God."

Al Leigh

A Message from Bishop Kevin:
The Primacy of Love Demands
Justice and Racial Reconciliation



Dearly beloved of God,

The outrage and horror over the brutal and needless murder of George Floyd, the latest in a string of brown and black people who have died senselessly, brings me to tears once again. The racial injustice that pervades our country and our communities leaves many terrified and in despair. The protests that have erupted out of

this moment bespeak the desperate need for listening, healing, and action towards racial reconciliation.

As the adopted father of a young man of color, I have learned over the last 20 years that many of the things that my father taught me about the realities of this world are not true for those who happen to be brown or black skinned. My outrage and heartache does not and will never touch that of those who live the daily struggle of a world where racial bias and injustice abounds.

The primacy of love demands that each of us must respect the dignity of every human being. Sadly, this dignity has been diminished. Whether it is the racist killing of a jogger, biases in our criminal justice system, systemic poverty, healthcare inequalities, unjust immigration policies, or the disproportionate death rate of people of color during this COVID-19 pandemic, I am learning that I must find a way to leverage my societal privilege, authority, and power to confront these injustices and walk in solidarity with all of God's beloved.

I join with leaders around the country, the church, and in our local communities and beg that we focus on solutions to the systemic problems that surround us and find ways to support the most vulnerable in our communities. To that end, today I have called upon [Sandy Milien](#), Missioner for Community Engagement, and [the Rev. Canon Dale Grandfield](#), Canon Missioner, to assist me in the formation of a Racial Justice and Reconciliation Task Force, as we envision how to faithfully and actively stand against racism and inequality.

As I often say, the heart of Jesus' ministry was time spent with ordinary people--truly listening to them, and speaking truth about the

most pressing issues of the time. I believe we are called to do the same in our communities. We need to hear from each other's hearts, acknowledge and confront our own biases, and have difficult conversations with each other. The only way forward is together - in love.

In God's love,



The Rt. Rev. Kevin D. Nichols
Bishop of Bethlehem

Resources:

[For Such a Time As This: Conversations on Race to Call Forth Solidarity](#)

[Sacred Ground-A Film-Based Dialogue Series on Race & Faith](#)

[Becoming Beloved Community](#)

This Week's Lay Ministers:

Altar Guild: Carol Lasher & Nancy Dooling

Announcements: Lynne Graham

Counters: Karen Blye-McAbee & Sandy Seeger

Lector: Lynne Graham

Intercessor:

Greeter/Usher: Nancy Dooling & Karen Blye-McAbee

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

4th Sunday After Pentecost

We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; yet we know that a person is justified not by the works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ. And we have come to believe in Christ Jesus, so that we might be justified by faith in Christ, and not by doing the works of the law, because no one will be justified by the works of the law.

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.

Statements If you would like a midyear statement please email me stpaulsmontrose@epix.net or call the office 570-278-2954. Betty

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.

10 Photos this week.

**Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears reliev'd;
How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believ'd!**

**When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we'd first begun.**

Morning Prayer

Lord, the day has begun breathless and gentle, touched by your Spirit as a moment in time; where we, awake from our sleeping greet you in the creeping morning mist of a new day. We thank you Lord for the gifts of yesterday, the blessings of rest and the 'Good News' that you bring. We welcome you into our morning, as we kneel in virtual time to pray.

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.

Welcome Back

As you know, we have having Morning Prayer in the Memorial Garden this Sunday, July 5th. The garden is ready and looking its best. The hedges trimmed, new mulch is down, and Dave cut the grass and has it looking great. All we need is you.





WE MISS YOU!



Father Charles



Father John doing his First Selfie



Joyce Printz



Cathy Hammons doing a Selfie



John Finlon (Fixing leaky sink!)



Dan and Lynne bothering Betty



Betty Depue Working



Bob Kimmell glazing windows at St. Matthew's