



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.


June 20 - 26, 2021

Morning Prayer Sunday June 20 at 10:00AM

If you are unable to attend in person worship you can watch live streamed on YouTube.

Go to St. Paul's website

<http://stpaulschurchmontrose.org> and click this

red button  on the front page, which takes you to our YouTube page.

This Week's Lay Ministers:

Altar Guild: Carol Marker & Barb Undercoffler

Officiant: Tom Undercoffler

Announcements & Lector: Lynne Graham

Camera & Broadcast: Andrew Wurth

Coffee Hour: Carol Lasher

Readings for Sunday

First Reading: Job 38:1-11

Psalm: 107:1-3, 23-32

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 6:1-13

Gospel: Mark 4:35-41

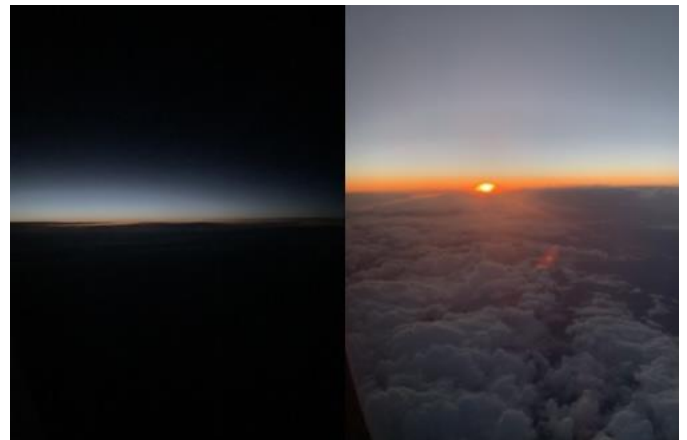
Altar Flowers this week are Given to the Glory of God & in Loving Memory of The Rev. W. Francis and Karlotta Allison, Elizabeth Allison, Donald & Geoffrey Hamlin by Peggy Allison Hamlin.

"VIEW FROM THE PEW"

After a 6,000 some mile 12 hour plane ride in two legs, my wife and I arrived into Fairbanks, Alaska. It was a long time to be wearing a mask, but I can definitely sense the light at the end of this pandemic tunnel. Other than the mask being required during air travel, there is definitely a greater sense of freedom and security in the general public. There also

doesn't seem to be the prevalent panic that there was a year ago and lack of empathy toward others which displayed an unfortunate greedy and hoarding mentality.

Alaska has the feeling of being in a world of its own - the final frontier, unless you are going into outer space or Siberia. The black bears found in Pennsylvania are not quite like the grizzlies (or brown bears) found in the Alaskan wilderness. During a couple months around the summer solstice, it is known as the land of the midnight sun. I guess in mid winter you could call it the land of the noon moon. In the pictures below, you see on the left at midnight as seen from the air between Seattle, WA and Fairbanks, AK (maybe around British Columbia). On the right, was at 12:39 AM just before landing in Fairbanks.



Summertime here is a breath of fresh air after an extremely long and cold winter and surprisingly short spring. It went from three feet of snow and melt out to the green buds of spring, then summer in a relatively short period of time. The Wood Frogs that were dormant and actually two thirds frozen through the winter started coming out then. With the

exception of the truck in the driveway and the occasional military aircraft flying out of the nearby base, you are really in a pristine and wild natural environment that could take you back a hundred years. No phones necessary and no houses in evidence and no bridges beyond this mostly uninhabited region - just a boat or plane ride west to the Commonwealth of Independent States (Russia).

John Warriner

Vestry Highlights June 10, 2021

We opened the meeting with prayer and approved the agenda.

We approved the minutes of the May 13, 2021 meeting.

Lynne read the Bible study scripture Luke 19:28-40. Jesus was asked by the scribes to rebuke his disciples for cheering him into the city of Jerusalem. He responded that if the people were silent, the stones would cry out. We talked about the Daily Office readings and why this particular scripture is read again after we just read it at Easter. Also spoke about the awesomeness of God that has control over all creation, not just humans, and how amazing it would be for the stones to cry praise to God.

Property Report: We are still getting bids for replacing the ramp door and window into the cloister. John F. and Dan are working on the coffee station in the Celtic Room.

We received an email from the Northern Missioner, the Rev. Melinda Artman. She is assessing our interest in having a mentored deacon for 6 months while we simultaneously draw up a parish profile.

We now have online giving capabilities through Vanco, There is a DONATE button on the home page of the web site that takes one to the different "tiles" to which one can donate. For now we have a pledge tile, a tile to donate bread, a Soup Night tile, a tile to donate to Stop the Stigma, and a St. Matthew's tile.

More tiles can be added as needed for different events and activities.

We reviewed and accepted the Treasurer's Report.

John Warriner has agreed to handle getting volunteers to write *View from the Pew* articles for the Weekly Update. Please respond favorably if asked to write an article, although voluntary submissions are always welcome. Please email any articles you would like to submit to John.

Lynne closed the meeting with prayer.

Next meeting: Thursday, July 8, 2021

SOCIAL NIGHT

Friday, June 25, 2021

time: anytime between 5:30 and 6:00

place: Tom and Barb Undercoffler's house
506 Melhuish Rd.
New Milford

Bring a dish to pass and a lawn chair

R.S.V.P. to 570 278-7470

First Wednesday of the Month: Free Salad Dinner at St. Paul's Episcopal Church 4:30-6:00 p.m. ***Please note** that the Free Dinners are take-out only during the pandemic.

For those who are ill or have requested our prayers: Margaret Burgh, Kathy Warriner, Naomi Bennett, Rita Leigh, Charlotte Eckert, Nancy Finlon, Johanna Masters, Jeannine Ball & Ben Cole.

Birthdays for June: Ben Zalewski 6/17, Lynne Graham 6/18, John Lasher 6/20, Mary Zalewski 6/21, & Margaret Baker 6/24.

Our thanksgivings: We give thanks for those who celebrate their birthdays this week. *O God, our times are in your hand: look with favor, we pray, on your servants 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 lives. 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.*



Coffee Hour Resumes

The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall.

Pastoral Emergency or Non-Emergency

Contact: you can call the parish office during office hours. After hours call Lynne Graham 570-934-1160.

Your tithes and pledges can be mailed to the church office at 276 Church St., Montrose, PA 18801.

8 Photos this week.

3rd Sunday of Pentecost

The church's one foundation

is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is his new creation

by water and the Word:
from heav'n he came and sought her

to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her,

and for her life he died.

The Gospel – With what can we compare the kingdom of God

Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples. (Mark 4:26-34)

Father Bill's Morning Prayer;

In this early morning Lord we pray. Someone told me, not so long ago that I could not get to heaven without being Catholic. "Which Catholic?" I asked. Catholics in New York are as different from Catholics in Europe, as chalk and cheese! "Why are you Episcopalian?" They asked.

That is so easy to answer I replied. I am Episcopalian because it is the one denomination that allows me to think for myself, hold my own opinions, make my own moral decisions and follow Jesus and the Gospel as a free thinking liberated person!---If you love freedom, if you have an intellect, if you care about others, if you feel you have an obligation to serve the poor, the marginalized, the handicapped, the sick, the prisoner, the rejected and those who are simply different-----then the Episcopal church is a good place to be. Except that we don't really recruit, advertise, or judge other denominations, we let people listen to their heart and go Lord, where you would lead them.

I do not believe my God is Episcopalian, nor Catholic, nor white, nor male, or female. My God is the one who gives us freedom and a free-will, even if that means that he is rejected by many.

You do not have to believe in God, nor follow his ways, nor keep his commandments. God does not force anyone to love him, worship him, or adhere to his Son's teachings and especially does he not brand each one of us with a number and a name that reads "Episcopalian"; "Catholic", "Lutheran" or "Baptist!" Our God 'let's us be', to find our own way to him, the ultimate source of light and love. Many never find that path, which is a pity, like a utility that desperately needs to be re-charged.

We who believe, or have received the gift of Faith, do not so much 'know God', but rather we have experienced him in our lives. I would say that we feel God. Sometimes we use language such as hearing God's call, an urge to go a particular way. For some that is a life-time commitment. For others, God seems to change the path that we are on, like a GPS taking us by a different route. Jesus talks about the 'wind', we hear it, we feel it, but we are never quite sure which way it blows. Our experience of God can be like that, we see and feel him in our own responses to his intervention in our lives.

I listen to Jazz and hear the horn section suggest a melody. The clarinet is going to reply, but not always quite in the way the horns expect. It is not as if the clarinet wants to be rebellious, awkward, or darn-right stubborn, he just feels that he has the freedom to play his notes differently. He can switch them around, even change key. He knows that somewhere up ahead he will get back to what the horns are saying. The horns don't really resent this. They have an appreciation for the clarinet's versatility, , capability and freedom of expression. In fact they may well try and tease him by stealing some of his creativity and harmonizing with it.

My God lets me play the melodies of life my way. He doesn't and did not create robots. He knows when I choose to mess with the notes and he loves me for it. No. I don't think that Jazz band in heaven will be 'all Catholic', I definitely feel that it will have a lot of diversity. I cannot wait to hear that sound.

If you Lord, are the Pied Piper, I know that you will understand. Yes, I will follow you, but you know I am going to play the tune my way! Amen. Fr. Bill

THIS WEEK

June 13th Service

We are having in-church services and we are getting back into the swing of things. We even had coffee hour again. The June 13th live-streamed Morning Prayer Service was led by Vickie Calby. The readings and announcements were done by Lynne Graham. Cathy Hammons played the organ Prelude, Organ Meditation and Postlude, along with two hymns. As with all our live-streamed services, you can watch it any time on YouTube. Just go to the web page and click on the red button.

St. Paul's Gets Ready for July 4th

Dave has been keeping the grass looking sharp and Cooper VanCott did his yearly hedge trimming/mulching spruce-up to get us ready for the July 4th parade (on July 5th). The grounds look great.



Donate Button Added to Web-page



St. Paul's now has a Donate Button on our Web-page. It gives our parishioners the ability to send their pledges on-line or for anyone to contribute on-line to several of our outreach programs. (Bread for the Montrose Food Pantry, Soup Night, Stop the Sigma, and St. Matthews.) Give it a try. \$3:00 is the minimum donation.

Convocation Meeting

On Tuesday night, June 15th, the diocese hosted a Zoom meeting on the Bishop's Convocation initiative. Discussion focused on how the parishes could share resources. St. Paul's is one of the seven churches that make up the northern area and we are in Convocation 1. We used our new screen set up to take part in the meeting and while the vestry sat up near the computer so they could ask questions, the rest of us watched the big screen.



Second week of June in Susquehanna County

"In early June, the world of leaf and blade and flowers explodes, and every sunset is different." Saw the first lighting bug of the season – make a wish! The farmers are doing first haying and it looks like it's going to be a good year. Fake phlox (Dames Rocket) provides purple, pink and white colors along our roads. Native daisies are in the fields and a "quarter moon rise'n on the Milky Way" was in the eastern sky.





John and Gaby say hi from Alaska



Remember When

Esther brought this old picture in of St. Paul's choir. The general consensus of those who know is that it was taken about 1991. Familiar faces include: Joe Welden, Bernie Z., Mary Ann DeWit, Esther and Mary Z.. Does anyone know any other members?

