




276 Church Street, Montrose, PA 18801  
Office 570-278-2954, Mon., Wed. & Thu. 8:10am to 2:30pm  
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. 22 - 28, 2021**

In person worship or 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: Barb Undercoffler & Karen Blye-McAbee

Officiant: Rev. Elizabeth Grohowski

Announcements & Lector: Lynne Graham

Camera & Broadcast: Andrew Wurth

Coffee Hour:

**Readings for Sunday**

First Reading: Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

Psalms: 34:15-22

Epistle: Ephesians 6:10-20

Gospel: John 6:56-69

**"Welcome to St. Paul's"**



**"VIEW FROM THE PEW"**

**Change Enables Growth**

I feel fortunate that I have had the opportunity to move around a lot growing up due to my father being in the Navy. There were many struggles that came with growing up with a parent in the military, such as, having little time for family with such an intense work schedule, and having to be away for deployment. I remember feeling worried about my father as he was away but knew that he was always being watched over and protected by God. But as many struggles as there were, there was also a lot of good that came out of growing up with a military parent. I was able to move around to many different parts of the country which has been such a great life experience from teaching me about cultural awareness, social competence, and to accept change and roll with the punches. Not only do I give a lot of credit to this life experience in helping shape me into the woman I am today, but I give credit to my parents who have been there to raise me well and provide me with all the resources and support I have needed to succeed in this world. Through this life experience, I have been able to adapt easily to change and it has enabled me for self-growth. There have been bumps along the way and not everything in life is perfect - in fact life can at times get very ugly. But it is important to learn to be okay with change because that is the only way you are truly able to grow, and always remain faithful in knowing that God has a wonderful purpose for you in your life. An example from scripture; "For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future" (Jeremiah 29:11). - Anna Warriner

**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.

**Birthdays for August:** Barbara Undercoffler 8/19, Else Brunner 8/20, Robert Aiken 8/23, Thomas Syle 8/25, Margaret Burgh 8/28, James Early 8/29 & Patty Aiken 8/30.

**First Wednesday of the Month on Sept. 1st:** Free Salad Dinner at St. Paul's Episcopal Church from 4:30-6:00 p.m. **Please note** that the Free Dinners are take-out only.



#### **Donations**

You can scan the QR Code above.

Or go to St. Paul's Website and click the Donate Button for online giving.

You can mail your tithes & pledges to the church office at 276 Church St., Montrose, PA 18801.

Or you can come in person & put your donation in the plate. We would love to see you in Church!

**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.*

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

**15 Photos this week.**

### **Two Weeks of Highlights are Included**

#### **11th Sunday After Pentecost August 8th**

##### **THE GOSPEL**

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?" Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves. No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. Very truly, I tell you,

whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh." (*John 6:35, 41-51*)

### **Father Bill's Morning Prayer**

In this early morning we pause to pray, with the good earth burning in so many places. We live in biblical times, maybe even the end time. Lord we pray for your creation, as we see and experience Eden in flames.

Drought, forest fires, rising seas, glaciers melting and disappearing into the Ocean, Atlantic currents changing, toxic fish and sharks in the far north. Scientists now say we are far beyond the point of no return. What happens next has already been written. More than weather, more than climate change, we are experiencing a cosmic event, the death of a planet.

"I am the Bread of Life" Jesus said in yesterday's Gospel from John 6. Miracles we can understand, but the death of our planet leaves us with feeling we stand on the deck of the Titanic, with no lifeboat to save us. We have nowhere to go, nowhere to escape to, all we can do is wait. Endings are never our best thing, and we search for meaning and purpose amid the devastation that so many are experiencing. Desperately, we try to push the thought from our mind: "At least it is happening out there. It hasn't reached us yet!"

Like watching the bow of the ship sink while we cling to the stern. Lord, we Christians need your help, as we always do when we cannot cope. 'Hope' is the word we are seeking. In normal times we would have it in our armory, but normal times are long gone, and we are fast approaching Apocalyptic Times. We pray that it is not so for we would prefer a more eschatological ending.

We pray that your kingdom might come; that peace might reign; that all live the life of the spirit. More and more we realize that the realized kingdom does not include evil, wickedness, cruelty, war and inhumanity.

Once we prayed that all might be saved; all be touched by the loving hand of our Creator. Some have hardened their hearts and turned their face to the wall, so that now our prayer is for your elect.

"Come Holy Spirit," we pray, "fill the hearts of your faithful people." And to you Lord Jesus Christ we pray: "Come Lord Jesus; Xpistos Curios."

Protect your people Lord and lead them in your ways. Amen.

### **THIS WEEK**

#### **August 8th Service**

The August 8<sup>th</sup> live-streamed 10:00 Morning Prayer Service was led by John Warriner. The readings and announcements were done by Lynne Graham. Cathy Hammons also played the organ Prelude, Organ Meditation and Postlude, along with two hymns. We welcomed Deacon Liz as a parishioner. As with all our live-streamed services, you can watch it live or any time on YouTube.

## Montrose Mobile Food Pantry Disaster

On the night of Thursday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, the Community Church in South Montrose burned down after apparently having been hit by lighting. The following morning was supposed to be the food distribution. Many of the supplies for the Pantry were destroyed. Early morning volunteers moved the location slightly north on Rt. 29 to the parking lot next to Antol's and food was distributed without a hitch. For at least the immediate future, they will use the same spot.



## ALS Walk Set for October 9th

The date for the ALS walk has been set for October 9<sup>th</sup> at Cedar Crest College in Allentown, Fr. John's Soulful Walkers will be together again this year for the actual walk, not the virtual one we had during Covid. One thing for certain is Fr. John wants to be there and St. Paul's parishioners again are invited to join the team. Don't hesitate to start getting sponsors to support our walk!





## August in Susquehanna County

“The first week of August hangs at the very top of summer, the top of the live-long year, like the highest seat of a Ferris wheel when it pauses in its turning”. A scarlet tanager got under the net and was eating the last of the blueberries when its picture was taken. Inside town, the National Night Out celebration at Memorial Park in Montrose on Tuesday was a huge success. Lots of St. Paul’s faces. Outside of town, the corn crop did well this year.



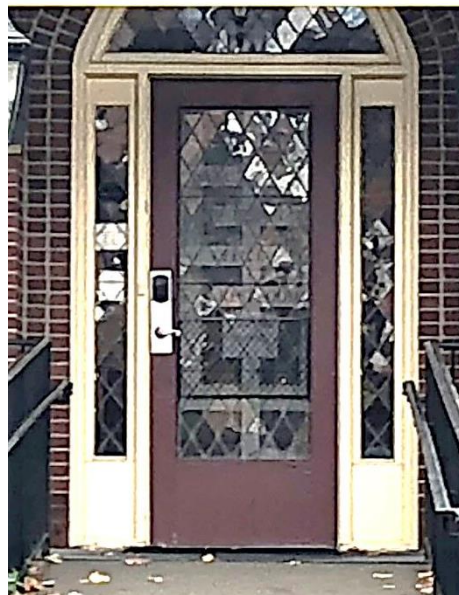
## Old Picture with St. Paul’s Found

An old photograph was found recently on the internet looking east on Church Street towards St. Paul’s. The picture was taken sometime between when the 1963 Plymouth Sport at the pump was made and 1966, when the Knoll house immediately to the east of the church was torn down for the Memorial Garden. The large cedar tree next to the parish house was planted in 1927 and would be removed when the church converted to oil under Rev. Pease. At that time, cars were still allowed to park on Church Street in front of church. Apparently, Lee’s was having a sale.



### St. Paul's to get new Ramp Door

St. Paul's ramp door is getting a replacement. Built in 1927 when the Parish Hall was constructed, it has a good amount of rot. We are replacing it with the same style of glass door that goes into the Church Street main entrance of the church. Mesko Glass from Scranton will be doing the work.



### 12th Sunday After Pentecost August 15th

#### THE GOSPEL

Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever." (*Luke 1:46-55*)

### **Father Bill's Morning Prayer**

Lord, this is our morning prayer. All day we have been reflecting on the readings for the Twelfth Sunday. We have been following a thematic approach from Track II of the Lectionary.

The First Reading is from Proverbs 9 and speaks of Wisdom personified as a woman. Wisdom is an invitation into the house of God, to take a place at his table. Images of the Last Supper are the first thing that comes to mind, but there is more. Rabbi Lionel Blue once told me way back in 1973, that among tribal Desert Peoples an invitation to eat, to sit down, in the same Tent, even with an enemy was a great honor.----Not only an honor, but as a guest you fell under the protection of your host.

Biblically, scripture constantly tells Israel, that there is a higher plain of consciousness, and one that we should all strive for. Wisdom in our lives is often illusive. When it fails, we find ourselves in all sorts of trouble and at times tripping over our own feet. Wisdom has that strange combination of virtues, understanding, knowledge, prudence that work together to give us true insight and vision. At times we fool ourselves into concluding that we are just going with a 'gut reaction,' but it is more than that. Wisdom is our better self-triggering our moral destiny.

The Last Supper similarly is a microcosm of that one phrase from Sunday's Gospel: "I am the living bread that has come down from Heaven. He who eats of this bread will live forever."---It is that invitation to live on a higher plain. A spiritual invitation to be better, more human. There is a moral compass that all of us can and should respond to. When we do, Peace reigns; when we don't we suffer the fallout of war, pain and all its affects.

Ephesians advises all not to live 'unwise lives'. To make the most of our time and to live 'in the Spirit'. it is a phrase that Paul often uses. We all have talents of one kind or another. Still, we all know that that talent has a higher level that we may never attain. O we could, but then we would have to totally dedicate our life to it.

Is Jesus really saying that in following him and imitating his teaching, we can become, and in becoming shift to a different level of being. Interesting thought. Amen.

### **THIS WEEK**

The August 15th live-streamed 10:00 Morning Prayer Service was led by Deacon Liz, her first service with us. The announcements were done by Lynne Graham and the readings by Karen Blye-McAbee. 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 live or any time on YouTube. The picture below was taken from our Parish Hall Screen.





### It's a Small World

Imagine the surprise of one of Mesko Glass' workman who discovered a stained glass window in our church that his grandfather or gt, grandfather made. Jacob Baut was here to make a pattern of our glass window above the ramp door and found the Baut name on one of the windows on the west side of church. The window was in memoriam to George Adams Post, Jr. He said his great grandfather emigrated from Germany and was a glassmaker. His grandfather continued in the trade. They opened a studio in Swoyersville in 1927 in Luzerne County.



### Parish Profile Group Meets

St. Paul's is developing a Parish Profile that will be used at the Office of Transition Ministry Meeting of 40 Dioceses in mid September and by Bishop Kevin as he introduces prospective clergy within the Diocese in October. A committee was selected and includes John Warriner, Carol Marker, Sandy Seeger, Tom Undercoffler and Dan Graham and you may be asked what you are looking for in a priest.





## Mid-August in Susquehanna County

*"Homegrown tomatoes homegrown tomatoes What'd life be without homegrown tomatoes Only two things that money can't buy That's true love & homegrown tomatoes"* Mid-August, traditionally the dog days of summer. Susquehanna grown tomatoes are on the vine. Summer afternoon storms make us close the windows when we leave. And of course, what would mid-August be in Susquehanna County without the Harford Fair.



## Old Coat Drive Photo Found

As St. Paul's kicks off the Coats for Community's 15<sup>th</sup> year, this photograph was found in an article by Fr. Charles for the Diocese. It was taken in the program's second year in 2008, the middle of the drive at Christ Church Susquehanna. Louise Bagnell is on the left and Janice Carpenter on the right. John Finlon is quoted in the article as saying: "Along with our four Episcopal churches, we are setting up sites at local schools, too. So far we have provided 410 coats to adults and children,. I suspect we will double that when we have the three day program at St. Paul's, Montrose." In fifteen years we have come a long way – we distribute about 1,600 coats a year now.

