


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
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 18 - 24, 2021

Morning Prayer Sunday July 18 at 10:00AM

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: Carol Lasher & Vera Dunn
Officiant: Cathy Hammons
Announcements & Lector: Lynne Graham
Camera & Broadcast: Andrew Wurth
Coffee Hour:

Readings for Sunday

First Reading: Jeremiah 23:1-6
Psalm: 23
Epistle: Ephesians 2:11-22
Gospel: Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

"VIEW FROM THE PEW"

The Power of Family

As a young adult, you always wonder what life as a parent would be like. You reflect on your childhood memories and the relationships you had with your family. You contemplate the values that your parents instilled upon you and determine what you will repeat and what you would change when growing a family of your own. What I failed to consider is the importance of how my partner was raised, and the impact that it will have on my child's life. To be a perfect family, I now see that the only requirement is love.

My husband's family is vastly different than my own and our childhoods were completely opposite. My husband grew up in a military family and was used to moving around quite frequently. My upbringing was much different, as I was born and raised in the same home, and never left my small town.

My husband was raised in a gentle atmosphere, with an abundance of love and affection. The warm family embrace was further strengthened by the amazing bond he has with both his siblings in addition to his parents. It is truly inspiring to witness. I was raised through tough love and an expectation to figure things out on my own. While this granted me immense independence,

I was left with little guidance and was inevitably learning life's lessons the "hard way." While our atmospheres and life events were much different, my husband and I both grew up knowing we were loved and knowing the difference between right and wrong.

This past weekend, our extended families were brought together for the baptism of our son (and his beloved Cousins). My perspective on parenting has completely changed from what it used to be. Your parenting style, status, or location ultimately doesn't matter so long as your child feels loved. The love that could be felt between our families and the Lord this weekend was overwhelming and truly inspirational.

Family is one of our most valuable gifts from God, and one that, as all holy gifts, we are entrusted to treasure, love and nourish. As parents, we are responsible for nourishing

children to become healthy adults. And as children, we are responsible for caring for parents as they age.

Jesus indicates that there need not be a blood connection for a parent-child relationship (as any family with adopted children can attest). In Matthew 12:46-50, Jesus actually redefines family, saying that all who love and follow him are mothers, brothers, sisters, fathers. So, all of us are parent, child and sibling to one another. Now THAT'S some family! Cherish everyone in yours!

Kristin Warriner

Vestry Highlights July 8, 2021

We opened the meeting with prayer and approved the agenda.

The minutes of June 10 will be approved at our next meeting.

Lynne read the Bible study scripture Luke 24:36-53.

After his resurrection, Jesus appeared to the disciples and confirmed that it was truly he and that he was not a ghost. We remarked on how he casually asked for something to eat, and then told them to stay in Jerusalem until they were clothed with power from on high as his Father had promised.

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.

At a meeting with Pastor Melinda Artman, we were told that we can expect the Bishop to assign us a Deacon for 6 months after the ordinations on July 24.

We are to submit a parish profile to the Diocese by September, which will be shared at the Office of Transition meeting. Several Vestry members have agreed to be on the Search Committee and we will complete that committee shortly so they can begin work on the profile.

We reviewed and accepted the Treasurer's Report.

We will begin sign up for coffee hour in September. Esther Welden has agreed to make pastoral phone calls to those who have been absent from church.

Lynne closed the meeting with prayer.

Next meeting: Thursday, September 9, 2021 at **5:00** p.m.

What Options do you have to Donate?



St Paul's QR Code for Giving

1. You can scan the QR Code above to donate.

What are QR Codes and how do you use them?

A QR code (quick response code) is a type of 2D bar code that is used to provide easy access to information through a smartphone. In this process, known as mobile tagging, the smartphone's owner points the phone at a QR code and opens a barcode reader app which works in conjunction with the phone's camera.

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

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

4. Of course you can always come in person and put your donation in the plate. We would love to see you in Church!

First Wednesday of the Month on Aug 4th:

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.

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 July: Maximus Bartron 7/20 & Stephanie Calby 7/25.

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 Early 8/29 & Patty Aiken 8/30.

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.

5 Photos this week.**7th Sunday After Pentecost**

**Christ, whose Glory fills the skies,
Christ the true and only Light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise!
Triumph o'er the shades of night;
Day-spring from on high, be near;
Day-star, in my heart appear.**

THE GOSPEL What should I ask for?"

King Herod heard of Jesus and his disciples, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."

For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. For John had

been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb. (*Mark 6:14-29*)

Father Bill's Morning Prayer

In our rising we pray to you Lord on this wet, rainy morning in July. Our prayer reflects our need for you in our life. For all the organizations we have ever belonged to, schools, colleges, universities and even churches have fallen away to dust, leaving us with nothing but you, your word, your teaching and your spirit.

We ponder and meditate on the nature of the Kingdom that you taught to your disciples, a kingdom of love, understanding, forgiveness and wisdom. No walls, building, place or institution can hold what is of the spirit, but is that invisible bond of true friendship, respect, trust and devotion. We are our own church. We do not search for the kingdom, we create the kingdom. It has no walls just outstretched hands; it is the music of our lives.

After living the kingdom, nothing matters. After living our lives, all else is gravy. We do not follow you Lord, for reward. We follow you because this world makes no sense without you. We are not ants nesting on a giant ball of wax. We feel the spirit move us to a higher calling. We will not play the 'Penny Whistle' when we could play the Violin. We will not 'whistle down the wind,' when we can join in the greatest Symphony.

If for us there is no Heaven, then we glory that for one short moment in time we belonged to something greater than ourselves. But, we hope and our hope resides in you. And our hope leads us to trust and our trust is in you. For we have seen glimpses. Glimpses of what the spirit can do in our lives. Once we were totally blind, but now we see. Seeing we believe and our belief has grown Faith and Faith is all we need.

We would gift that Faith away, Lord. We would give it away. Standing before your gates we would give our Faith away to a dear friend who had none or lost it completely.---We would settle for that, that at the last they could see. We would settle that once we knew you and you had lit the spark of the kingdom within us.

And as we walked away, we would not cry for what we had lost, but thank you for what you had given to us that lifted our lives. For your kingdom is friendship and for one short moment we shared that love. Amen.

THIS WEEK

Last week was so busy it was good to have a week without much to do and to breathe and catch up.

July 11th Service

The July 11th live-streamed 10:00 Morning Prayer Service was led by Lynne Graham. The readings and announcements were done by Dan 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 live or any time on YouTube. Just go to the web page and click on the red button.

Summer in Susquehanna County

"You know, when you get your first asparagus, or your first zucchini squash, or your first really good tomato of the season, those are the moments that define summer and what we look forward to all winter." Too much rain this week. While we moan about Susquehanna County's weather, it produces outstanding blueberries. If the first picking this year is any indication, the blueberry crop appears to be a bumper one. The bushes are loaded with berries and the branches are bent carrying a heavy load. You get to eat while you are "picken". Flowers of the common milkweed are beginning to be seen at the top of the plant waiting for a Monarch butterfly to drink their nectar and lay their eggs. Staghorn sumacs along the roads are starting to show how they received their name as the red "stag's horn" is now noticeable. Native daisies have started their month long show in fields. Mid-summer is here.





Remember When – Father John

“Have a seat folks!” Great memories of good participatory sermons! We miss you Father John!

