

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: <u>stpaulsmontrose@epix.net</u> Click on link to go to our Website: <u>http://stpaulschurchmontrose.org</u> Click on link to go to our Facebook Page: <u>https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsmontrose</u>

Mission Statement for St. Paul's: To proclaim God's love by word and example and to seek Christ in one another.

July 25 - 31, 2021

Morning Prayer Sunday July 25 at 10:00AM

In person worship or you can watch live streamed on YouTube. Go to St. Paul's website <u>http://stpaulschurchmontrose.org</u> and click this red button on the front page, which takes you to our YouTube page.

Sunday August 1 at 11:00AM Service at St. Matthew's Church in Stevensville with Ret. Chaplain Cmdr. William Holiman.

No Service at St. Paul's on August 1.

This Week's Lay Ministers:

Altar Guild: Carol Lasher & Vera Dunn Officiant: Carol Marker Announcements & Lector: Lynne Graham Camera & Broadcast: Andrew Wurth Coffee Hour:

Readings for Sunday

First Reading: 2 Kings 4:42-44 Psalm: 145:10-19 Epistle: Ephesians 3:14-21 Gospel: John 6:1-21

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.

August 9 through 13 the office is closed. The weekly update will go out on August 5 and not again until August 19. Please plan articles accordingly.

"VIEW FROM THE PEW"

When I think back on the days when Ed and I found out that we were having a child. We were so excited and so happy that we were going to be blessed with a precious little one. All we cared about was that our baby would be healthy. I knew that childbirth could be a painful experience. Even with the best pain medicines available, the stress and trauma of childbirth cannot be lessened. A mother giving birth may travail in labor for hours. Her contractions may be painful and the birth process may be grueling. In that period of labor, she suffers greatly. But as soon as she sees the face of that new born child all of this passes away. The suffering, the pain. disappears and is replaced by joy and an amazing feeling of overwhelming love.

In the bible, Paul gives us a similar situation. Paul explains here that the Gospel has great power to sustain us in time of trouble. He was not talking only about the trials that Christians in his time had to endure, but the sickness, pain and trouble that all Christian, throughout time would have to endure. He says that no matter how difficult the suffering is in this world, it does not even compare to the glory that awaits us in heaven.

The glory that will be revealed to us is so great in comparison to the suffering that preceded it. We will forget our former trials when we get a glimpse of that glory of God kingdom.

Sandra Seeger

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!

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: 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.

11 Photos this week.

8th Sunday After Pentecost

The Gospel-- they were like sheep without a shepherd

The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were

coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed. (*Mark 6:30-34, 53-56*)

Father Bill's Morning Prayer

The Eighth Sunday of Pentecost, dawns on another July morning. The readings today are all about betrayal, failure of leadership and abandonment. The Old Testament readings rely on Jeremiah.

He no longer addresses the People of Israel, but now points the finger at the leaders of the nation, especially the priests, scribes, and all in authority. He uses the analogy of Sheep and Shepherds. Israel has been led astray and the sheep have scattered. The days of sacrifice, duty and religious observance have been replaced by fine buildings, palaces, temples and houses. Gone are the tents and the ways of a wandering people searching for the Promised Land, caring for each other especially the old, the sick and the poor.

Jeremiah speaks with the voice of a Prophet in troubled times. He looks to 'The Day of the Lord'. A day like no other when the 'root of Jesse' the descendent of David will appear and put everything right. It is a 'Messianic' message, a prediction of the coming of the Messiah.

We recognize in Jeremiah's message the coming of Jesus the Lord and the fulfillment of Jeremiah's prophecy. Jesus too uses the example of Sheep and Shepherds in today's Gospel from Mark. It is a teaching moment for the disciples and the Apostles. The leader is the one who leads and serves. In the Letter to the Ephesians the writer speaks of a new day when the old law is superseded by something better. For the Christ has come, and in his coming he has gathered from every corner Jew and Gentile alike. He has shepherded in an new era of peace.

Today's reading speak to us as never before and we must ask ourselves the question: "which are we sheep or shepherd?" For once we were sheep and a member of the flock of Christ, but today we are called to be shepherds. We are called to go seek the lost, the sick, the disadvantaged, the old and even the sinner. We are called to be Christ to others and continue his saving work. For dead, risen and ascended, he can no longer do what we can do for him.

We have been given the power, blessed with that grace, all we now need is belief, and faith in the spirit. The time grows short. We are not involved in some game. We are a part of the 'Greatest Story Ever Told.' No one can do what we are called to do. Let us steady ourselves for the task ahead. Amen.

St. Mark's Good News Lunch

For a number of years, on the third Saturday of the month, St. Mark's has been hosting a free lunch for the community. Originally lunch was served inside the parish hall, but Covid changed that. Just like our drive up soup/salad ministry, St. Mark's now distributes the lunch by drive up. Last month they served almost 100 lunches. They recently decided that they will continue with the drive up distribution as they can give out more lunches.



THIS WEEK

July 18th Service

The July 18th live-streamed 10:00 Morning Prayer Service was led by Cathy Hammons. The readings and announcements were done by Lynne Graham. Cathy Hammons also 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 our web page and click on the red button.

Richard Marker Drawings Highlighted

Richard Marker was the featured artist this month at the Slanted Art Co-Op on Church Street. A showing with a wine and cheese reception was held on July 15th. A number of Richard's portraits were exhibited. Stop in if you get a chance and see some of his exceptional work.





Coffee Station Coming Along

The coffee station in the Celtic Room for the AA folks is coming along, albeit slowly. The cabinets are in but we still need to get a water source to it for the coffee maker. Otherwise, except for a butcher-block counter top being made by Diaz and some paint, we will be ready to go.



Mid-Summer in Susquehanna County

"It will not always be summer: don't fritter it away!" It's been a wet week with daily, hard thunder storms. That quintessential summer wild flower, Queen Anne 's lace, has begun appearing on our road sides. No child's summer bouquet picked for her mother is complete without one. Fawns are running around and getting into trouble. Zucchini's and yellow squash and other produce began appearing on the kitchen island at church for sharing. Grandma always said, at this time of year, beware the neighbor with a garden coming up your walk with a bag. They are bringing zucchinis! Summer perennials are at their best – daises, coneflowers, black eyed Susan's, Bee Balm, lilies etc. They are all strutting their stuff for us. Mid-summer is here.





Remember When – Gathering in Kitchen Before Church

There's something about St. Paul's kitchen that attracts us before church. Good conversation, peeking at the goodies for coffee hour, just plain comraderie.

